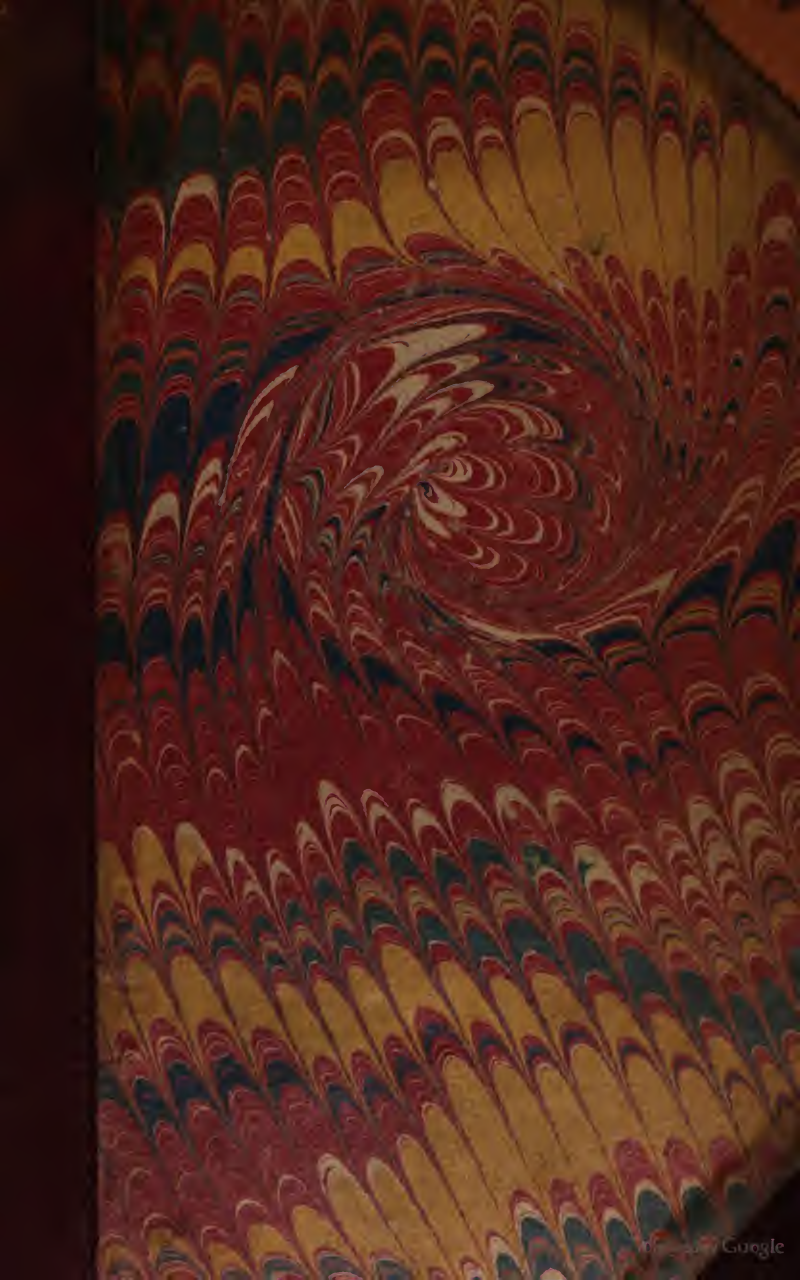
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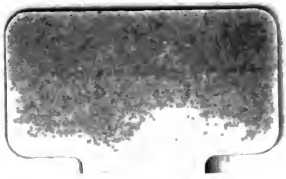

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A CIRCUMSTANTIAL

JOURNAL

Of the LONG and TEDIOUS

BLOCKADE and SIEGE

OF

GIBRALTAR,

From the 12th of September, 1779, (the Day the Garriſon opened their Batteries againſt the Spaniards) to the 23d Day of February, 1783;

CONTAINING,

An authentic Account of the moſt remarkable Tranſactions, in which the Enemy's Motions, Works, Approaches, Firings, &c. are particularly deſcribed.

In a Series of Letters, from the Author to his Brother.

By S. ANCELL, of the 58th Regiment.

Guarded by Britiſh Arms,---Gibraltar Rock,
Of France and Spain ſuſtains the hoſtile Shock;
See them, in vain, their Arms, their Arts employ,
To ſtorm the Garriſon---a ſecond Troy;
Though that, the Greeks, by ten Years Siege could gain,
Here Bourbon's boaſted Efforts prov'd in vain.

LIVERPOOL:

PRINTED BY CHARLES WOSENCRAFT.

M, DCC, LXXXIV.

226. k. 70.

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To

LIEUTENANT GENERAL

LANCELOT BAUGH,

Of His Majeſty's 58th, (or RUTLANDSHIRE)

Regiment of Foot,

AND TO

THE OTHER OFFICERS,

Whoſe Share in the memorable Tranſactions,

Here recorded,

Juſtly entitle them to the Public Eſteem;

Theſe Sheets are

Reſpectfully and gratefully inſcribed,

By their moſt humble

And obedient Servant,

SAMUEL ANCELL.

LIVERPOOL,
AUGUST 1784.

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To the Reader.

FOR any Inaccuracies which may be met with in these Letters, the *Reader*, it is hoped, will be induced to make Allowance, if he considers the Duties of the Writer as a Soldier. The Circumstances are authentic, and were penned during a long and laborious *Siege*, amidst the Roar of *Guns*, *Mortars*, *Howitzers*, and the bursting of *Shells*.

OF the *Generosity* of the Public, the Author has had, on this Occasion, ample Proof; is happy in returning Thanks to the numerous Subscribers, for their Encouragement, and now entreats their *Candour* in their Perusal of the following Sheets.

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LETTER I.

GIBRALTAR, 1779

Dear BROTHER,

I SHOULD think myſelf wanting in affection and gratitude, did I not favor you with the particulars of every thing deſerving notice, during the approaching Siege; but circumſtanced as I am, and being conſtantly under arms, or with working parties, many matters of a trifling nature, will eſcape my knowledge; you will therefore not expect this Journal to be elaborately filled with trivial daily occurrences, but depend upon receiving a full account of every tranſaction of a public nature; ſuch as the enemy's motions, firings; veſſels engaged, taken, eſcaped, ſailed, arrived; batteries erected, deſtroyed, &c. &c.

A council of war being held yeſterday, at the Convent, at which the field officers and naval commanders aſſiſted, it was reſolved unanimouſly,

Sept. 12th

1779 unanimouſly, to commence a cannonade on
Sept. the enemy, and accordingly this morning (having previouſly withdrawn our advanced guards from Bay Side, and Forbes's) we opened our batteries on the enemy, beginning at Rock Gun down to the Mole Head, employing every gun that could poſſibly bear upon them. An officer's lady, whom curioſity had excited to the batteries, was encouraged to diſcharge the firſt gun, and having taken the lighted match, (with an intrepidity not peculiar to the ſex) Gen. Eliott, pronounced in a true heroic ſtyle "Britons ſtrike home", and immediately every battery and angle bellowed with rage, and foamed with deſtruction

At the firſt diſcharge our ſhot dropped ſhort, ſo that their advanced guards had time to eſcape to their lines, and their precipitate retreat almoſt occaſioned a general laugh, to view the Dons tumbling one over another, as they fled from the ſhowers of ſhot. When the enemy had reached their lines, we gave more elevation to our guns, and Fort Barbara and St. Philippe received a heavy cannonade, nor were any part of the Spaniſh lines neglected. As I came up the ſtreet about two hours after, from Waterport, (having been the preceding day and night on duty at that poſt) I could not but remark the timidity and fearful apprehenſion pictured in the countenances of the inhabi-

tants

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tants, as they were held in expectation of 1779
as furious a return from the enemy. The Sept.
Jews and Jeweſſes exhibited the moſt de-
ſcriptive amazement, accompanied with ſig-
nificant ſhrugs, and eyes raiſed to the ſkies;
with nimble ſteps they took ſhelter at the
ſouthward, leaving their houſes and effects.
(except ſuch as were of convenient carriage)
expoſed to the dangers that muſt have enſued
had the enemy opened upon us. About four
in the afternoon we began to throw ſhells
into their forts, and the enemy who had ſe-
cured ſome indifferent ſhelter from our ſhot,
now found themſelves moſt inconveniently
annoyed, as we often perceived that they
appeared in diſorder.

A heavy and inceſſant fire all night. The 13th
enemy appear to be in motion, and our ex-
pectations lead us to imagine that, about
noon they will return the compliment. The
fearful inhabitants, who ſheltered at the
ſouthward, cannot be perſuaded to return,
but ſeem happy in their minds, that they
are out of the reach of the foe. 'Twas ob-
ſerved to-day, that their forts have received
ſome damage from our firings.

No return from the enemy. The uneaſi- 14th
neſs of the people ſeems leſs predominant,
and they now venture to return to their ha-
bitations in town. The enemy appear very
buſy; they are encamped at the foot of San-
ta Roque, to a great number, with ſome
ſquadrons

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1779 Sept. squadrons of horſe; they appear to be about 16,000 men, including the Catalan troops; they are beginning to carry faſcines and gabions to their lines, ſo that it is beyond diſpute they mean to return the fire. When we firſt received the account (June 21ſt) from General Mendoza, Commandant at Santa Roque, of the commencement of hoſtilities, between their Catholic and Britannic Majeſties, it occaſioned a general rumour in the garriſon; the governor and officers aſſembled on the Grand Parade, and every tongue was employed in delivering their opinions: Our advanced guards and lines were reinforced, and detachments of the picquets ſent to the weakeſt places, as we concluded that the enemy would endeavour to ſurprize the place.

Hoſtilities being thus commenced, Gen. Eliott, with the advice of the navel commander, iſſued letters of marque, to ſeveral privateers in this port, who immediately went out and captured ſome ſmall prizes, with wine, brandy, and other neceſſaries, that will be much wanted: but on the 26th of July, Don Barcello, with two line of battle ſhips, two frigates, one xebec, and ſeveral galleys, anchored off Cabritta Point, to keep the port blockaded. Our cruizers were under the neceſſity of returning to the bay, and are now laid up, as the enemy are ever watchful of their motions, and our force is too

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too weak to offer an oppoſition.. It is cur- 1779
rently reported that Spain's intention is, by Sept.
famine, to oblige us to ſurrender; you may
therefore conclude, that while the enemy
remain maſters of the Straits of Gibraltar,
our ſituation will be exceedingly diſagreea-
ble, and we ſhall be greatly neceſſitated for
refreſhments.

Our Governor is indefatigable in improv-
ing the works, particularly thoſe on the
heights of the hill, moſt convenient to annoy
the enemy and prevent their approaches.
The unthinking part reflect upon him, for
being ſparing of the proviſion, and taking
part of the merchants ſtores for the king's
uſe.

The enemy are very aſſidious; many work 20th
ing parties employed, but we cannot form
any judgment of what they are doing. To
day a ſettee, that ſeemingly ſtood for the bay,
with wind at W. was conducted by Barcello's
cruizers to Algaziras :---This circumſtance
makes us rather uneaſy, as we fear that many
more will ſhare the ſame fate. Deſerted, a
ſerjeant, and a Hanoverian, who notwith-
ſtanding our ſhot, eſcaped ſafe to the enemy.

The enemy are quiet, but continue a ſharp 30th
look out in the Gut. This day, Barcello's
ſhip was dreſſed with variety of colours, and
a ſalvo fired. He rides moſt magnificently,
exulting over a people ſhut up like poultry
in a coop. He is ſo vain, and ſo poſſeſſed

 with

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1779 with the proſpect of our capitulating, that Sept. he has ordered all officers, under his command, to wear the key of the Straits, tyed with a ribbon upon their boſom. We may expect the next month will furniſh more important intelligence. Whatever happens, (if I ſurvive) you may depend upon receiving a minute and circumſtantial account, from

Dear Brother,

Yours affectionately.

LETTER II.

GIBRALTAR.

Dear BROTHER,

1779 Oct. FAR diſtant from every endearing friend, and the ſocial joys of fellowſhip, I again take my pen to write to you. Nothing material has happened; the enemy are exceedingly aſſiduous at work, and we are conſtantly playing upon their parties; Barcello, with the ſtricteſt vigilance, watches the Gut, and ſome of his cruizers are moſtly ſtretching from Ceuta to Cabritta Point, to guard the offing. We have not received any ſupplies or intelligence, nor have we obſerved a ſhip, boat, or ſettee, endeavour to get in: Every thing is getting at ſo exorbitant a price, that it is almoſt impoſſible for a perſon of moderate income to purchaſe what is requiſite for ſuſtenance.

This

This day, a twenty-four-pounder was dragged up the face of the Rock to Mid-shipman's Look-out, or Rock Gun, the labour and danger attending it, is not to be conceived, as it was carried over points of rocks to a height of 1357 feet. 1779 Oct. 9th.

The enemy's force now consists of,

At Algaziras.	1 ship	70 guns	700 men.
	1 frigate	36 do.	300 do.
	1 xebec	32 do.	250 do.
	1 do.	28 do.	200 do.
At Ceuta.	1 ship	60 guns	600 men.
	1 frigate	26 do.	250 do.
	1 xebec	18 do.	200 do.
	1 do.	20 do.	180 do.
	1 do.	14 do.	80 do.
Constantly cruizing.	1 xebec	16 guns	100 men.
	4 smaller		240 do.
	6 half-galleys		1000 do.
	6 quarter-galleys		450 do.
	20 armed boats		300 do.

On our side are at anchor,

Panther,	60 guns	400 men.
Enterprize,	28 do.	200 do.
Childers,	14 do.	90 do.
Gibraltar,	12 do.	40 do.
Fortune,	10 do.	30 do.

Last night the enemy were excessively hard at work, our batteries poured upon them Oct. 20th

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1779 Oct. them a liberal distribution of shells, but notwithstanding, they completed their operation, and this morning exposed to our view three new batteries, two of fourteen and one of seven guns, constructed for playing upon our lines, Landport and Waterport.

30th No prospect of relief: We begin to think England has forgot that such people are in existance. The enemy are quiet, but exceeding watchful, and labour much at their approaches; we cannot form any judgment of what they are doing: We keep up a fire upon them.

This day the Peace and Plenty privateer being chased to the eastward by a frigate and two row gallies, wind at S. E. unfortunately run ashore between the Devil's Tower and Fort Barbara. Our batteries commenced a brisk cannonade on the fort, and dismounted several of their guns, but notwithstanding, the enemy poured into her a prodigious quantity of round and grape shot; the boatswain had his right thigh shot off and died soon after. The captain finding it impossible to get her off the bed of sand where she had run aground, and grape shot coming in a continual shower from the enemy, he and his crew having took out a few things in their hands abandoned her and came in at Landport. She was detached by General Murray from Minorca to view our situation, and see if any supplies were come from England.

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land. She had taken ſeveral prizes to the eaſtward, and relates that the troops at Minorca are in good health, and want nothing but cloathing. 1779 Oct.

The enemy kept all night a fire upon the unfortunate privateer, they have greatly ſhattered her hull and rigging, ſo that ſhe will never be fit for ſea again. The enemy ſeem to be making preparations for a vigorous attack, they have begun forming ſeveral bomb batteries. Our fire is without intermiſſion, which the enemy patiently bear. Several of our howitzer ſhells fell among their working parties and killed a great number. General Elliott continues to increaſe the fortifications; and working parties from each regiment in the garriſon, are employed in erecting traverſes in different parts of the ſtreets to ſhelter the troops, and inhabitants, from the enemy's ſhot whenever they open their batteries. We have not received any ſupplies either from England, Portugal, Tangier, Tetuan or Minorca, nor has a ſhip appeared but the Peace and Plenty ſtanding for the bay. The Spaniſh cruizers keep hovering in the Offing. We wait the arrival of a fleet with impatience. 31ſt.

Yours, &c.

LETTER

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LETTER III.

GIBRALTAR,

Dear BROTHER,

1779 Nov. 1ſt. THE enemy laſt night fired a carcaſs into the privateer which run aground the 30th ult. and in a few hours ſhe was conſumed. The enemy continue to work, and we continue to fire. Proviſion is getting extravagantly dear and ſcarce: Fiſh and flour are the chief ſupport of the inhabitants. A ſmall ſtring of fiſh, (about the ſize of a large ſprat, eight in number) coſts five or ſix rials, upwards of two ſhillings Engliſh.

This day the bakers ſhut their doors, and delivered the bread thro' a wicket, protected by a guard, as the crowds were ſo preſſing, that they were under the apprehenſion of their houſes being pulled down----the flour they have in hand will not laſt, according to computation, more than two months. Ant. Smilie, a capital Genoeſe baker, aſſured me, he had only 18 barrels of flour to ſerve himſelf, family, and the public. The Governor has ordered them to bake but a ſtipulated quantity daily.

It is really grievous, to ſee the fighting of the people for a morſel of bread, at a price not to be credited by thoſe who never knew hardſhip or their country's ſervice. Men wreſtling, women intreating, and children crying, a jargon of all languages piteouſly pouring

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pouring forth their complaints. You would think ſenſibility would ſhed a tear; but yet when we are in equal diſtreſs ourſelves, our feelings for others rather ſubſide. Compaſſion is very extenſive but ſelf-preſervation ſhuts out all condolement. 1779 Nov.

This day arrived a two-decker from the weſt, and anchored between Cabritta and the battery at Algaziras. Several ſmall craft alſo arrived. 6th.

Every thing continues quiet---the enemy keep buſily at work at their bomb batteries. Sailed a frigate from Algaziras to Ceuta. 19th.

This morning we obſerved the enemy had recalled their working parties from the lines and that they were forming fortifications, extending from Fort St. Phillipe to Point Negro, as a defence and cover for their camp; this gives us the alluring hopes that they have ſome intimation of our fleet being at ſea. It would be a glorious ſight to ſee them routed and their camp deſtroyed. Our batteries are not idle, but keep a well directed fire on their forts and late approaches. 28th

The calls of duty prevent my further writing. Excuſe all inaccuracies, and believe that I ſhall always remain

Affectionately yours, &c.

LETTER

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LETTER. IV.

GIBRALTAR.

Dear BROTHER,

1779 Nov. 3d SEVERAL days more elapſed amidſt expectation and firing, but no proſpect of relief. The merchants are getting money apace, as for every article they ſell they charge their own price; glad are every one to make a purchaſe. O ye winds be propitious! and quickly waft our floating caſtles to our relief. Haſte and ſave us from hunger, miſery and death.

The enemy continue their works on the ſhore, and have forwarded a battery near the guard-houſe, on the right of St. Phillipe. Our fire from the batteries is rather remiſs, as the enemy do not appear very numerous in the lines.

12th Laſt night came in two deſerters from the enemy's Walloon guards, with their arms, &c they aſſert that the enemy have 1000 pieces of cannon and mortars in their lines, and only wait an order from the court of Madrid to fire, that their magazines are full of powder, and that a reinforcement of French troops are hourly expected. They are lodged at his Excellency's houſe, and I do not doubt but their intelligence will prove advantageous to the operations of our works, as they were conducted by the Quarter-maſter General to Willis's, and the upper batteries.

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batteries (from which a proper view can be taken of the enemy's works) and gave a satisfactory description of their new approaches. 1779 Nov

Wind N. W. This morning we were led to believe that our fleet was near at hand. The Spanish watch towers hung out signal-colours, and the battery at Cabritta Point fired a gun for their cruizers to get under weigh. The Buck privateer was soon discovered standing for the bay, under all the sail she could croud; the gun boats bore down upon and fired briskly into her, which she returned as spiritedly: two frigates having slipped anchor stretched across from Cabritta to intercept her; having got within long gun-shot they fired two or three broadsides, the cutter then tacked and stood for the Barbary shore, the frigates followed and soon drove to the leeward; she then tacked and stood again for the garrison, when a third frigate and a xebec pushed out, and likewise dropped to leeward, while the cutter kept her course; Barcello then hove to under Cabritta, with an intent to keep the windward gage---the bravadoing, blustering, and vigilant Barcello, in the St. Jean Baptiste, of 70 guns, bore down upon her, and having got within half cannon shot, poured into her several broadsides, which the cutter returned; he then made signal for the gun-boats and galleys to board, but when they had rowed pretty near, the hardy crew gave them such 14th.

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1779 a liberal diſtribution, that they were com-
Nov. pelled to retire. Barcello having fallen to leeward, endeavoured to work up again, but not being able, on account of the freſh breeze at N. W. was, to his no ſmall mortification, under the neceſſity of going to the eaſtward, with the remainder of his cruizers. She proves to be the Buck of Folkſtone, Capt. Fagg, in 19 days from England. On his dropping anchor at New Mole, the numerous ſpectators from the batteries and walls, gave him three cheers, and the General on his landing, paid him the higheſt commendation for his bravery and manœuvres. What news he brings, is not made public, excepting that we are not to expect a fleet yet.

14th I cannot cloſe this account without informing you, that ſome leagues to weſtward he was chaſed by three cutters, and finding they were Engliſh he lay too. They aſked him where he was bound, and anſwering to Gibraltar, they perſuaded him to return, adding it was impoſſible to get in ſafe. In a jocular ſtrain he aſked if there was room for a coach and ſix to get in, which being anſwered in the affirmative, he rolled his quid two or three times, and with an audible oath, ſwore he would get in if Belzebub himſelf gave chaſe.

This day we got in a ſettee, with 38 bullocks from Tangier; two others were taken by the enemy's gun-boats, one of which had a packet

a packet for the garriſon; they were kept ſo 1779
long on board before they could get in, that Nov
they were nearly periſhed: their fleſh, when killed, was like a jelly, and ſold for three rials eight quarts per pound.

The wind having ſhifted Barcello and his ſquadron have returned to their ſtation:--- they keep a ſharp look out from Cabritta, being determined, I dare ſay, not to be beat again in ſo ſhameful a manner.

This day four Portugueſe that were pri- 24th
vately diſpatched by the Governor to fetch a packet from Faro, returned ſafe; they had a ſmall boat which was carried on camels, over rocks and mountains, being permitted by the Moors, and launched it in a creek under Apes Hill, and ſtole over in the night. We flatter ourſelves there is good news, as the General and principal officers appeared to be in high ſpirits.

This morning came in a deſerter from the 30th
enemy, and this evening another; they both belonged to the Walloone Guards, and brought their arms with them: the latter was purſued by three horſemen, and would have been taken, had not our people been very alert at Willis's, by pouring grape ſhot upon the purſuers.

The enemy are bringing down great Dec.
quantities of facines to the lines, and are 1ſt.
again labouring at their approaches, but do not ſeem diſpoſed to return the fire. Laſt night,

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1779 night came in two deſerters from the Wal-
Dec. loone Guards; they report that the enemy
are not to fire, while they can keep the place
blockaded, as General Alvarez is confident
that famine will oblige us to ſurrender. We
are certainly greatly diſtreſſed for want of
freſh proviſion and vegetables: Salt meat is
ſcarce to be purchaſed, which is ſold for
two rials, and two and a half per pound.
Yeſterday a baker was obliged to ſhut up,
not having flour ſufficient for his family for
one month. Appearances are rather dread-
ful; God grant that a fleet may ſoon arrive,
or the conſequences are to be feared.

8th Came in a deſerter from the Walloone
Guards. He was cloſely purſued by two
horſemen, but our batteries made them re-
treat. He ſays, that they are much diſtreſſed
in camp for freſh water, and that a great ma-
ny die of the flux, occaſioned by drinking
of the ſalt ſprings.

14th This morning we perceived two men run
out of the Spaniſh lines, and preſently after
two horſemen followed, and having overta-
ken the former, they killed one on the ſpot,
and ſecured the other, notwithſtanding our
fire:---And laſt night deſerted two Hanove-
rians of De la Mott's regiment; they eſcaped
to the enemy from Europa Advance Guard,
by means of a rope ladder, which was acci-
dentally left by the King's workmen.

This

This morning the enemy executed the de- 1779
ſerter they took yeſterday; all their regi- Dec.
ments were under arms. 15th

Garriſon orders this day were as follow: 19th

" No gun to be fired from any of the batteries at the enemy's ſhips, when the diſtance requires more than ſix degrees elevation, unleſs ſuch ſhips are engaging, or in chaſe. Any captain of the royal artillery, who may happen to be preſent on ſuch occaſions, will give his advice in the management of the guns, which the officers commanding guards will be juſtified in following."

Laſt night ſailed the Buck privateer, for 21ſt
Mahon, w nd S. W.

This day the enemy began a fire upon our 27th
outward works; they obliged the garriſon gardeners, who work on the iſthmus or neck of land (termed the neutral ground) to retire. Several Genoeſe fiſhermen who were dragging nets at the ſea ſide, were alſo under the neceſſity of retreating, leaving their nets, lines and tackle, on the beach; a twenty-ſix pound ſhot fell at the northermoſt angle of (our Prince's lines; the centinel narrowly eſcaped. The enemy appear very buſy---their approaches are in great forwardneſs, but are all maſk'd; their bomb batteries appear to have no ordnance mounted, nor has it been obſerved that any number of men have been employed there for ſome time paſt. We conjecture that this day is only a preface, or introduction

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1779 introduction to the grand diſplay, and that
Dec. the long boaſted exhibitions are ready for performance.

28th The enemy laſt night deſtroyed great part of our gardens, and, unbecoming the character of warriors, they meanly ſtole the nets, lines, &c. that our fiſhermen left when they made their retreat yeſterday. Came in a ſmall boat from Tangier, with goats, fowls, and eggs: ſhe fortunately ran in under cover of the night. The goats ſold for 10 cobbs per head; fowls three dollars, ſix rials per couple; eggs ſix rials per dozen. Alſo came in three deſerters from the Walloone Guards; it is currently reported that the intelligence they bring is not altogether favorable to our wiſhes. God grant that a fleet may ſhortly arrive, and that we may be enabled to give the enemy a Britiſh reception whenever they attack our walls. I herewith preſent you a few lines on the approaching ſiege.

The hoſtile face of war with rage array'd,
And threat'ning danger mix the black parade;
Iberia arms, and lifts the glitt'ring ſpear,
And thro' a ſea of blood prepares to ſteer;
The Britiſh lion views her dire deſigns,
While ſecreſy Britannia's council binds;

Nor

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Nor dreads their force, nor ſhakes at
war's alarms,
Nor quakes at cannon, or impetuous
ſtorms;
Their hoſtile preparations ſeem to wear;
And ſpeak their object to be Gibraltar.
With martial courage we our foes
defy,
For George we live, and in his cauſe
we'll die;
Nor fear we their attack upon this place,
For Eliott will the foe courageous face.
The Dons of proud Iberia he will tame,
And add new luſtre to his country's
fame.
Ye Dons go arm---ye Monſieurs
them aſſiſt,
The Britiſh vet'rans will your pow'r
reſiſt,
Your efforts join'd to take this ſtub-
born rock,
Will cauſe a ſcene that will your cou-
rage ſhock;
Your boaſting heroes with a joy elate,
Will from our roaring cannon meet
their fate
The mighty ocean will be ting'd with
blood,
And carcaſſes lie floating on the flood;
For ev'ry Briton chearfully will fight,
And bleed and die for Albion's injur'd
right.

The

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1779 Dec. 30th The enemy are quiet, but keep conſtantly at work; their parties are very numerous, but we cannot make them deſiſt; they have broken down all their ſtone guard-houſes, and ſeem to be converting them into works of annoyance. We may expect that the enſuing year will be fertile with intelligence, and that we ſhall be able to give a more deſcriptive account of their approaches.

It is really vexing and mortifying to view the Spaniſh hills and heights, covered with cattle, while we can ſcarce procure a piece of ſalt beef, and that at a price, which when told, carries with it the face of improbability. I truſt that God, in his infinite goodneſs, will relieve us from the impending famine, that hourly awaits us, and reſtore us to the nouriſhing neceſſaries of life:

I am, Dear Brother,

Affectionately yours, &c.

LETTER

LETTER V.

GIBRALTAR.

Dear BROTHER,

I AGAIN take the pen to write to you, though I assure you, our most sanguine hopes seem entirely lost. Last night came in two deserters of the Walloon Guards---from the accounts they bring, we expect to have many more months to suffer---they say that the Spaniards engaged our fleet off Cape Finister, that the English were defeated, and a great many captured. Yesterday arrived some fresh troops in their camp, and this afternoon, a small boat that made a push for the garrison, was taken off Cabritta Point; it is not improbable that she was detached with intelligence for the place, as she did not appear to be deeply laden. 1780 Jan. 7th.

A Neapolitan polacre, laden with barley, having come within the reach of Europa guns, we discharged a few shot at her, and obliged her to come in; she will afford us some relief:--Barcello seemed to be very uneasy at her getting in, for he made a signal immediately for a frigate and a xebec, to cruize to the eastward: They pass'd by within long gun shot of the Garrison. 8th.

Several random shot from the enemy, but no material damage done; they seem to have a great inclination to begin the work---We 11th

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1780 keep a moderate fire upon their parties, and
Jan. approaches.

12th The enemy ſtill continue to fire occaſionally; a ſhot ſtruck the parapet of the Old Mole---a 26-pound ſhot (the firſt fired into the Garriſon) went through the roof of Mr. Quartin's houſe, and drove a ſplinter into a lady's heel, who was walking in the ſtreet; another went through a centry box in Landport covered way: A mule belonging to the waggons (who go to the Devil's Tower to take in ſtone) was lamed by their fire; and the enemy, in an unprecedented manner, inhumanly fired at a clergyman performing the ceremony over the body of a deceaſed ſoldier.

13th This day the field officers commanding corps aſſembled at Colonel Roſs's quarters, to take into conſideration the preſent ſituation of the garriſon proviſion; when it was ordered, that the ſoldiers ration ſhould be ſhortened, viz. half-pound beef, quarter-pound pork, and one pint peaſe per week, deducted from each man's allowance.

Our ſituation every day appears more alarming, there being a ſcarcity of almoſt every thing in the Garriſon---fire-wood a cobb per hundred; flour 5 rials per pound; no freſh meat except an old cow, or worn-out ox, (only one perhaps killed in a month) which is ſold at 4 and half or 5 rials per pound; fowls 20 to 24 rials each; a gooſe 10 dollars; a turkey 20 dollars; eggs a cobb

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cobb the dozen; and every other neceſſary in proportion. 1780 Jan.

This morning a ſoldier deſerted from the back of the Rock, where he was with a party cutting buſhes. He made an excuſe that he had dropped the key of his box, and being indulged to ſearch for it, he obſerved the party buſy, and took his rout by the eaſtern ſhore:--we fired many ſhot at him, but all ineffectually. 15th

This afternoon, Wind W. S. W. an Engliſh brig appeared in the offing; ſhe was chaſed by a xebec and ſeveral gallies, but fortunately got ſafe into New Mole: She brings the joyful and happy tidings of a fine fleet being within twenty-four hours ſail of the Garriſon. She parted with them five days ago in a gale of wind, off Cape Finiſter. Three officers of the artillery, (bound for Minorca) who came paſſengers in her, were on our Grand Parade this evening, receiving congratulations, and giving information.

You cannot, dear Brother, picture to yourſelf the joy of the Garriſon, nor can the moſt energetic language deſcribe it, looking upon ourſelves as people reprieved from death, or conſequences worſe---true Britiſh teſtimonials exhibited among the ſoldiery, over their bottle and glaſs, and the moſt tender and ſympathetic emotions among the long-diſtreſſed and ſuffering inhabitants. Sordid avarice and exorbitancy, I truſt, will now

be

1780 Jan. 15th obe forgot, and thoſe who made a trade of the diſtreſſes of their fellow brethren, will not enjoy with tranquility of mind, their ill-got gains. I have not time to write more, the preſent calls of duty oblige me to conclude, ſubſcribing myſelf,

Your affectionate Brother.

LETTER VI.

GIBRALTAR.

Dear BROTHER,

1780 Jan. 16th A GROUP of tranſporting ideas employ my mind, and whilſt I am reflecting on the proſpect of relief, I am equally captivated with the thoughts of information from you; from whom I have not received a ſingle line theſe many months. The Garriſon are all on the wing:--the ſound of the fleet is all that is to be heard, and every rock and hill re-echoes the bliſsful tidings. This morning flour ſold for ſix-pence per pound, which was ſome time paſt two ſhillings, and a great favor to obtain it at that price; the ſhops that were ſhut up are now opened, and adorned with bread, biſcuit, ruſk, &c. The Garriſon appears in an entire ſtate of tranſformation, and the people are ſo buſy purchaſing

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chaſing eatables, that it brings to my re- 1780
membrance the feſtive fairs in England.--- Jan.
Every perſpective is employed, and ſpy- 16th
glaſſes are mounted like cannon on the walls, directed towards the Gut----various reports are circulating: The enemy have hung out ſignal colours from their watch towers; not a ſhip nor cruizer on the oppoſite ſide attempts to move. I believe the ſcene is changed, without as well as within the walls. Poor Barcello muſt feel, with inexpreſſible pangs, this ſudden ſtroke that robs him of all his promis'd honors, that ſhuts him and his vigilant cruizers up at Algaziras, and compells them to view with madden'd rage, the Britiſh enſigns that bid defiance to Andaluſia's ſhore.

Came in a deſerter, Walloon Guards.--- Intelligence not publicly known.

Laſt night arrived (unmoleſted) a brig 17th laden with flour; ſhe left the convoy two days ſince, and brings word, that they have taken a Spaniſh convoy of one ſhip of the line, five frigates, and twenty-four ſail of tranſports, bound from Bilboa to Cadiz.--- We hourly wait their arrival. Stopped our ration, according to order.

This morning came in the Apollo frigate. She brings the intelligence that ſeveral men of war got under ſail from Cadiz, to engage our fleet, that the Britiſh were victorious, and that the enemy had one ſunk, one

blown

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1780 blown up, one ſtranded, and four captured.
Jan. Glorious news!-----Received half a pint of
18th rice in lieu of peaſe.

19th Laſt night two Engliſh men of war came in, and confirm the above engagement. About ſix this morning came in, the Phœnix, a Spaniſh 80 gun ſhip, being the one the Admiral commanded. She loſt her main-top-maſt, and other rigging in the engagement: Admiral Don Langara received a wound in his groin. The Britiſh fleet having ſtood too near to the Barbary ſhore, overſhot the Bay, and drove to eaſtward in the night, and it is probable it will be two or three days before they can work up. The Spaniſh Admiral came aſhore this evening, and was carried in a ſedan chair. Every guard he paſſed paid him the honor due to his rank.

21ſt Wind E. Came in three 70 gun ſhips, one a Spaniſh Commodore, alſo the Guipoſcoana a 64, taken with the Bilboa convoy, and great part of our fleet; they are ſo thick I cannot number them with any preciſion. About eleven this forenoon came in the Prince George, Admiral Digby, with Prince William Henry on board. Admirals Rodney and Roſs are ſtanding for the Rock. Our ſhipping have taken to the eaſtward two xebecs, and a great many ſettees bound for the camp of St. Roque. Prince William Henry landed, accompanied

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accompanied by the Admiral; the General received them with the warmeſt encomiums, and the garriſon and ſhipping performed a 21ſt. ſalute. 1780 Jan.

The Spaniſh ſquadron, commanded by Admiral Don Juan de Langara, Gefe de Eſquadra, which Admiral Rodney fell in with off Cape St. Mary's, are as follow:

Phœnix,	80 guns	Taken and brought in here.
Diligente,	70 do.	
Monarca,	70 do.	
Princeſſa,	70 do.	
St. Domingo,	70 do.	blown up.
St. Eugenio,	70 do.	taken, then abandoned.
St. Julian,	70 do.	and ſtranded.
St. Lorenzo,	70 do.	Eſcaped.
St. Auguſtin,	70 do.	
Santa Roſalia,	26 do.	
Santa Cecilia,	28 do.	

The Terrible, man of war, and four other ſhips, being drove by the rapidity of the current, near the enemy's forts Phillipe and Negro, they beat to arms in their camp and made a poſition of defence; they fired 157 ſhot and ſeven ſhells, but did no other damage than killing a Spaniſh priſoner on board the Terrible. This day, the Spaniſh Commodore landed. 22d.

Wind W. Took a ſettee going to Ceuta. 23d.

This

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1780 Jan. 24th This day the troops received their beef and pork, ſtopped laſt week. All hands at work unloading the ſhipping--Several cranes have been erected from South-port to the New Mole.

25th The enemy this morning fired two ſhot towards the Garriſon, one grazed North-Line-Wall Guardhouſe. About eight this morning, a corporal and five Walloon deſerters, who made a puſh for the Garriſon, were purſued by a party of horſe and foot, the corporal was taken, and two they knocked down and run them through with their bayonets, afterwards beat them with the butts of their firelocks, and ſlaſhed them with their ſwords; one of them they carried off in triumph: We ſhot one of their horſes in the hind leg, in their retreat, who remained on the iſthmus or neck of land during the day; three eſcaped the maſſacre, owing to the activity of their heels, and the one whom they left on the ſands, a party of our people brought in, ſo miſerably hacked, that he was ſhocking to behold;---two Genoeſe buried him this afternoon, outſide of Forbes's Gate. Before that our batteries could afford the deſerters any aſſiſtance, the purſuers had got under the direction of our cannon, and our muſquetry was to very little purpoſe employed. Came in and anchored, this morning, Admiral Sir Geo. Bridges Rodney, and

and ſeveral other ſhips. This day received ſeveral flags of truce, reſpecting the exchange of priſoners. 1780 Jan. 25th.

This morning we perceived the Spaniſh infantry under arms, ſoon after obſerved a gibbet erected, and a criminal executed. It is beyond diſpute that the unhappy ſufferer, is the corporal they took yeſterday on the iſthmus. This afternoon the Fortune cutter, under a flag of truce, conveyed the ſick and wounded priſoners to the Orange Grove, where the enemy received them. Came in and anchored in the Bay, Admiral Lockhart Roſs, with ſome ſettee prizes taken to the eaſtward. 26th

This morning arrived from Tangier, a ſmall boat with lemons and oranges;--a very uſeful article, as they are very ſalutary in the cure of the ſcurvy Came in a Spaniſh brig; four line of battle ſhips and a 64 are at anchor in the Bay, adorned with the Britiſh enſigns.

Barcello, no doubt, is fired with rage at ſo unexpected an alteration, eſpecially to view the ſhipping intended to prevent ſuccours being thrown in here, now in a ſituation of being employed againſt him. How contemptible muſt he appear after all his pomp and parade, to be ſhut up and forced to yield the ſovereignty of the Bay, where his heavy cannon ſo awfully rattled along the ſhore.

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1780 Jan. 28th Arrived a boat from Tangier, with a few dozen of fowls. Came in a settee with bullocks and other refreshments from Tetuan. One of our frigates cruizing in the Offing, captured a settee bound for the camp.

29th This forenoon landed from the ships of war, the second battalion of the 73d regiment, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel George M'Kenzie: They were under orders for Minorca, but our Governor, with the advice of the Admirals, and Field Officers, has detained them here. This afternoon wind S. W. Commodore Eliott in the Edgar, and a frigate gave chase to a ship off Cabritta, under Dutch colours; which as soon as she perceived, she tacked and stood for the land; Eliott bore down upon her, and quickly got within long gun-shot, when she hoisted Spanish colours, and run ashore under Cabritta: A brisk fire ensued on both sides, in which the battery took a part, but Rodney perceiving their situation rather dangerous, hoisted a signal for them to return. It is imagined that she was detached with instructions to Don Barcello.

30th Garrison orders this day were

"*Whenever the captain of Willis's observes a parley coming out of the Spanish lines, he is to call over to the captain of the Princes lines, to acquaint the captain of Landport guard, who is to report to the Governor.*"

The

The Spaniſh boats were yeſterday employ- 1780
ed in endeavouring to get the ſhip off, which Jan.
they did not effect till this morning s tide. 30th
She muſt be greatly damaged, as it is a rocky
ſhore where ſhe ran aground: They have
warped her in among the reſt of the laid-up
ſhipping at Algaziras. Early this morning
came in three (naked) deſerters from the
Walloon Guards, they having ſwam from
the foot of the Fort St. Phillipe. They re-
port that the Spaniſh General holds a poſiti-
on of defence every night, as he expects our
ſhipping will fire upon their camp, before
they leave the bay. The enemy have mount-
ed artillery in their 14 and 7 gun batteries,
and ſeem to have prepared to act on the de-
fenſive at their forts---We keep a moderate
fire upon them, and often put their Guards
in diſorder. Every one is amazed that the
enemy do not return it, for certainly they
can have no hope of taking this place by fa-
mine, ſince we have received ſupplies from
England, or ſhould they ſtill entertain that
idea, I hope a few ſhips of the line will be
ſtationed to keep open a communication be-
tween Tangier and the Garriſon.

I am, dear Brother,
Yours, &c.

LETTER

LETTER VII.

GIBRALTAR.

Dear BROTHER,

1780 Feb. THE ſtores and proviſions being almoſt landed, the fleet are getting in readineſs for ſea, and it is confidently reported, that none of the ſhips of the line will be ſtationed here to guard the bay; we may therefore conclude that in a ſhort time, we ſhall experience a ſituation equally as diſtreſſing as that which we have lately been relieved from; for while the enemy commands a ſuperior force in the bay, the nouriſhing ſupplies which would be forwarded from Tangier and Tetuan, will be cut off: A few days will leave our ſituation no myſtery.

3d. This day the Spaniſh deſerters embarked on board the men of war, on their paſſage to England. Sailed the Childers, with diſpatches.

5th. Came in at Landport, two private men and a drummer, belonging to the enemy's Walloon Guards; they aſſert, that the General has no orders to fire, but on the defenſive, and that Don Barcello has received advice from Madrid, to renew the blockade, as ſoon as the Britiſh fleet departs, at which time he is to be reinforced with two ſhips of the line and ſeveral frigates.

Came

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Came in a deſerter from the Walloon Guards. Feb. 10th

This forenoon wind E. N. E. Admiral Rodney made ſignal to weigh: About 12, the men of war, including the five Spaniſh, viz. Phœnix, Diligente, Monarca, Princeſſa, Guipoſcoana, and convoy, got under ſail, on board which many families had embarked, and were happy to eſcape the difficulties of the place:--The battery at Cabritta, fired a gun to alarm the coaſt, which was returned at Ceuta, as our ſhipping ſtood towards that place in order to clear the point; in the evening they were all out of ſight, but the enemy continued to fire alarm guns, and threw a great number of rockets from their watch towers. 13th

The Edgar, under the command of Commodore Eliott, the Panther, Enterprize, Porcupine, Gibraltar, and Fortune ſloop remain here. At Algaziras are at anchor, one ſhip 70 guns, one do. 50, one frigate, and a few xebecs. We certainly are now able to oppoſe our enemy on the oppoſite ſide. Some of the cruizers at Algaziras have hauled out, and proceeded to the Orange Grove. 14th

Yeſterday Admiral Langara, and the other officers of his fleet, were permitted to paſs to Spain on parole.

Barcello this morning hauled out to the left of the battery at Algaziras---appears to be 15th

1780 Feb. 15th be very busy in getting up his yards and top-masts; some of his galleys passed to the westward. On the land side a few working parties have again made their appearance.

27th Nothing material has happened these many days, excepting that the Spanish horse and infantry, have been performing their evolutions, twice every day: It is computed their number fit for actual service is about 17 or 18,000. Last night came in a small boat with lemons and oranges from Tangier. The enemy's gun-boats chased her under Europa, which occasioned a few shot to be discharged from that post.

This day arrived at Algaziras, from the westward, four line of battle ships, two frigates and one xebec.

28th Wind W. Arrived at Algaziras, a frigate and a xebec from the westward. The frigate saluted Barcello, but no return was made. It appears as if they intended to renew the blockade.

Mar. 4th This morning alarm signals were made at Ceuta, of the appearance of an enemy to the eastward. Wind N. N. E. Barcello immediately looſed his fore-top-sails, as a signal to weigh: A frigate, xebec, and two galleys, made ready, and stretched across for Ceuta; soon after he followed, but had not quite cleared Europa, when the cruizers discovered her

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her to be a xebec. The wind having ſhifted to the S. E. this evening, the enemy have again anchored at their look-out on the oppoſite ſide. Several galleys, and other inſect cruizers that ſtole away, during the continuance of our fleet, have ventured to return. 1780 Mar. 4th

This day our cartel, under flag of truce, received from Spain, 390 Britiſh priſoners of war. They report that Spain is determined to have the place, let the conſequence be what it will, and that a large body of French troops are really embarked for the camp. 12th

This morning the enemy appeared very buſy at work: Our batteries kept ſhowering a conſtant ſupply of ſmall ſhells upon them, ſo that they were compelled to deſiſt. 15th

Laſt night a deſerter came in from the Walloon Guards; from the account he gives, the enemy ſuffered conſiderably from our fire yeſterday. One ſhell killed and wounded 25 perſons. 16th

The Spaniſh ſquadron this morning were decorated with variety of colours; in the afternoon their troops in camp were arranged in three lines; the battery at Fort Negro made a tripple ſalvo of 12 guns each time, which was anſwered as often by a running fire from the enemy: The batteries and ſhipping at Algaziras performed the ſame. 19th

A neutral veſſel was brought in by Barcello's cruizers for examination, he being determined

1780 termined not to let a ſhip paſs unnoticed.
Mar. For theſe three days we have not fired much,
19th being buſily employed in ſtrengthening our works, particularly thoſe adjoining to the iſthmus.

25th Wind W. This day arrived ſeveral polacres and ſettees at the Orange Grove---We conjecture they are laden with ſtores for the camp.

29th At day break this morning, a ſignal-gun was fired from a xebec near the point; ſeveral armed cruizers got under ſail, and formed a line from the Point to Ape's Hill, where after firing a ſhot, they captured a ſettee, and brought her in with her colours reverſed. It is imagined ſhe had cattle on board for the Garriſon, which is very much wanted, as very little freſh meat can be purchaſed. Our proviſion is chiefly ſalt beef and pork, and that we uſe ſparingly, not knowing when we may receive another ſupply. Vegetables are ſcarce and dear, and what are ſold, are no better than the rubbiſh of a dunghill in England. Our barren rock yields but little, but as neceſſity generally ſtrikes out a remedy, many have begun to endeavour to convert the ſolid parts of the rock into kitchen gardens, which ſome have effected by raiſing walls one height above another, and filling the encloſed with earth. It will appear a

ſcene

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ſcene of enchantment to Barcello, when he 1780
beholds the face of the dry and barren rock, Mar.
in a ſtate of vegetation. 29th

I am,

Dear Brother,

Yours, &c.

LETTER VIII.

GIBRALTAR.

Dear BROTHER,

THE enemy are ſtill forwarding their 1780
approaches, on our part, I can affirm April
there is no deficiency. The Spaniards muſt ſuſtain conſiderable loſſes in their operations, as we ſeldom let them reſt Our fire, of late, does not prevent them working, but judge what muſt be their ſufferings when we are hourly pouring upon their parties, great quantity of ſhells and grape ſhot.

The ſufferings of the Britiſh troops, at preſent, is from heavy duty, and the ſcarcity of proviſion, but we may expect in a ſhort time another ſcene to be exhibited; when the enemy have completed their approaches, I imagine they will retaliate, but we are prepared to withſtand their efforts, and while a

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1780 round of ball and powder is left, Great
Apr. George's name will be ſounded from our cannon.

7th Laſt night a boat was diſpatched to Barbary, to learn if there was a packet, or any intelligence from England:---Several cruizers were diſcovered in the Gut this morning, ſo that many conclude ſhe was taken.

10th This morning about three o'clock, came in ſafe, the boat that was ſent to Barbary. She brought a packet to the General, but no intelligence has tranſpired. The patron of the boat has refuſed to anſwer any particular queſtions.

14th Laſt night wind W. arrived the Hyena frigate, in 13 days from England: She exchanged ſeveral ſhot in the Gut with the enemy's xebecs. Barcello, this morning (the wind having ſhifted) detached a frigate to the W. where ſhe keeps tacking and hovering about the Gut.

20th Wind E. This morning about 9, the Edgar and Hyena, got under way ſuddenly, and ſtood to the weſtward; the Spaniſh towers immediately ſpread the alarm, and Barcello, with three ſhips of the line hove out, but to his no ſmall mortification, could not weather Cabritta, until our ſhipping were out of ſight, he being obliged to make ſeveral tacks in the Bay, owing to the ſtiff breeze.

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breeze. They ſteered to the W. curſing their inauſpicious ſtars. 1780 Apr.

This day, Barcello and his ſquadron, returned to their former anchorage, vowing revenge on St. Antonio, if he deceived them any more. 22d

Laſt night came in a ſchooner, from Malaga, with lemons and oranges: They are natives of Spain, but run in here, knowing it to be a good market. 27th

Some time in the courſe of the night, the ſchooner ſlipped out, unperceived by the enemy, it being very thick and hazy. 28th

Came in a boat from Tetuan, with 12 dozen of fowls:----They had ſeveral cocks on board, which they were forced to kill, fearing their crowing might alarm the Spaniſh cruizers, that cover the Bay. 30th

Laſt night about 10, a fire broke out in the enemy's camp, which raged with great rapidity, for upwards of two hours. May 1ſt

Wind E. This day arrived a convoy from the eaſtward at Algaziras and Orange Grove. It has been obſerved that many carts are employed in carrying ſhot and ſhells from the Pier to the Artillery Park, where they are ſcaling their cannon; their troops appear very buſy, and their motions indicate a ſpeedy attack. 3d

The inhabitants are beginning to erect ſheds at the ſouthward, near Mount Pleaſant,

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1780 ſant, as a retreat, whenever the enemy open
May upon us, which many are of opinion will not be long.

4th Came in a boat from Tangier, with lemons, fowls, leather and Barbary pumps. The great demand in this place for ſhoes, renders leather an article of great emolument.

6th This afternoon the Spaniſh army were arranged in two diviſions, and about 4, began a ſham fight, ſimilar to an attack on the Garriſon, as one diviſion took poſt on the riſing ground under the Queen's Chair, (ſuppoſed to be the Engliſh) while the other diviſion in the valley on the common, endeavoured to diſlodge the troops above, and take poſſeſſion of their intrenchments: The fire was warmly returned by thoſe from the height, and briſkly ſupported on both ſides for three hours, when the Engliſh forces were entirely routed;--they had ſeveral field pieces, and ſome cannon with them. I aſſure you, that the fight afforded great entertainment, and the army diſplayed ſome merit in their performance. They have been practiſing ſeveral days, but none worthy of remark but this. It is evident they mean to familiarize their troops in the nature of an attack, ſo that they may be more expert in a regular aſſault.

7th This day a cartel from Spain, brought o-

ver

ver between forty and fifty Britiſh priſoners 1780
of war: they confidently aſſert that 14 ſail May
of the line, ſeveral frigates, and a number of 7th
tranſports with troops, were hourly expect-
ed to ſail from Cadiz, but their deſtination
was only matter of opinion.

Laſt night four deſerters, who endeavour- 8th
ed to reach the Garriſon, one only eſcaped
ſafe; three were either taken or ſhot by the
Spaniſh horſe patroles-----He is one of the
Walloons, and ſays, that the Spaniſh Gene-
ral has received advice from Madrid, to fire,
whenever he thinks proper; 52 large mor-
tars are mounted in their lines, with an in-
credible number of cannon. From this in-
telligence, we may conclude, that a bomb-
ardment will ſhortly take place.

This day a ſoldier was executed for theft.
He died with great contrition and penitence,
ſeemingly ſenſible of his ſituation and wick-
edneſs.

This day the Spaniards executed two men, 9th
we ſuppoſe them to be thoſe whom they
took on the night of the 7th inſt.

This day came in a deſerter from Spain--- 11th
he is a native of the place, and the firſt that
we have received ſince the commencement
of hoſtilities.

Laſt night came in a boat from Tangier, 12th
with fowls, pidgeons, and leather----The
enemy chaſed her under the guns.

This

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1780 May 15th This day a large Swediſh ſhip having approached Europa, we fired a ſhot, to oblige her to come in; but to our diſappointment, found her cargo to conſiſt of ſalt only.

This morning the Sweed ſailed from here, but Barcello's cruizers afterwards brought her into Algaziras, for examination.

A xebec arrived at Algaziras from the eaſtward, towing two large gun-boats.

18th This morning two boats arrived from Tangier, with fowls and lemons;---they bring word, that the Fly packet-boat, was on the night of the 17th inſt. cut out of that port, by the Spaniards. It appears from this circumſtance, that the Moors are inclined to favor the Spaniſh cruizers, or otherwiſe would not have ſuffered an act of this nature, to be committed under the walls of their town.

22d Arrived this day from the W. a ſchooner laden with leather, butter and oil. Nothing extraordinary in the enemy's camp. Our garriſon are beginning to be very ſickly---the ſmall-pox rages with great violence, and carries off 18 or 20 per week, but moſtly children. The enemy ſeem buſy at Algaziras; a great many boats are every day employed from the Orange Grove to that place, but we cannot obſerve any thing particular they are doing.

I am, yours, &c.

LETTER

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LETTER IX.

GIBRALTAR.

Dear BROTHER,

WE ſtill continue our cannonade on the enemy; they are conſtantly bringing down ſtores and ammunition to their lines, and have made great improvement in their approaches. 'Tis ſomewhat ſtrange, notwithſtanding the ſlaughter our ſhot and ſhells occaſions among them that they are not diſpoſed to retaliate the compliment. 1780 June 1ſt

Wind W. arrived a ſettee from Tangier with 11 bullocks, 13 ſheep, 24 dozen of fowls, with a quantity of leather, eggs, and lemons. She got in unobſerved by the enemy, the wind being exceſſive freſh, had forced the Spaniſh cruizers into Algeziras.

Came in two boats with a few fowls from Tetuan. 4th

Laſt night deſerted a ſoldier from the Mole-head guard. He had not long been planted centry, when he left his firelock in the box, and took his paſſage (naked) in the water. 5th

Came in a boat with 15 ſheep from Tangier. The Patron relates, that an Engliſh brig arrived in that port. in 18 days from Portſmouth, laden with butter, porter, and 6th

flour

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1780 flour, and that the Spaniſh cruizers were
June watching her cloſely.

About one this morning, wind N. W. a
7th ſhip was diſcovered ſtanding for the New Mole; the Enterprize hailed her, upon which ſhe anſwered, "A proviſion ſhip from England;" the frigate hailed again, and ſuſpecting that ſhe was no friend, immediately hoiſted the ſignal of an enemy's approach: ſoon after ſeveral more appeared keeping the ſame courſe:--The Eterprize diſcharged a ſhot at the firſt, and the enemy finding they were diſcovered, took to their boats, and ſet them on fire, one after another, being 9 in number:---The wind now dropped, and a dead calm enſued; the garriſon and ſhipping kept a briſk fire on the boats as they retreated, from which they muſt have ſuffered conſiderably, as they brought the firſt into the New Mole. Our ſeamen in an undaunted and gallant manner, rowed along ſide of the flaming devourers, and having grappled to their burning ſides, they towed them quietly to the back of the New Mole, among the clefts of the rock, where they burnt to the water's edge, before a number of ſpectators from our walls, who were returning Almighty God thanks, for the great deliverance; for had the wind continued to blow freſh, our ſhipping muſt have been inevitably conſumed:--Three of the fire-ſhips drove

to

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to the eaſtward; two dropped very near the Panther in Roſia Bay, where ſhe lay at anchor; and the others to Europa and Little Bay. They burnt with ſurprizing fierceneſs for three hours---the maſts of ſome ſtood to the very laſt, and appeared as under ſail---- The largeſt was a 40 gun ſhip, and burnt till this afternoon. The Garriſon drums beat "to arms", and the ſoldiery immediately repaired to their ſtations. The terrified inhabitants, together with the women and children, were wringing their hands, weeping with the moſt bitter and inexpreſſible anguiſh, expecting every minute, a bombardment from the land-ſide-----Such a ſcene would pierce the moſt inſenſible heart, to hear their piteous lamentations. During the tranſaction, the Rock appeared as bright as if Aurora had juſt ariſen, to bleſs the creation with her enlivening rays; the ſtars reclined their heads, and the ſkies and ſea, were loſt to perception, amidſt the bright illumination. 1780 June 7th

Barcello, with his ſquadron, was under ſail, flattering himſelf, that if our ſhipping were not burnt, they would cut their cables and puſh to ſea; but his ſtratagems were fruſtrated, and this morning he returned to his old ſtation, to ſtudy more miſchief.

Some time in the night came in a boat from Tangier, with fowls and leather. It

1780 June 7th was fortunate ſhe was not fired at from the Garriſon, as ſhe might reaſonably have been ſuſpected for a Spaniard.

N B. There were about 20 ſail of ſhipping in the New Mole.

8th This morning came in a privateer and a large ſettee from Portugal, with ſheep, wine, oil and lemons. This muſt be an additional mortification to Don Barcello, notwithſtanding the vigilance of his numerous cruizers to diſtreſs us, that we are ſo ſeaſonably favored by providence.

10th Arrived with a fine breeze at W. two boats from Barbary---they brought 48 ſheep and a few fowls. A gun was fired from one of the enemy's galleys, but too late to prevent their getting in.

11th Laſt night a man on duty, at the batteries on the hill, fell from a precipice of the Rock, and was ſmaſhed to pieces. It is ſuppoſed his intention was to deſert.

12th Laſt night arrived a ſettee from Tangier, with 38 bullocks and 80 ſheep; alſo a ſmall boat with oil. Theſe frequent ſupplies will enable the Garriſon to ſuſtain their ſituation with the utmoſt ſpirit. Beef is ſold for three rials, and mutton four rials per pound.

14th The enemy's line of battle ſhips and frigates ſailed from Algaziras to the E. Admiral Barcello has hoiſted his flag on board a xebec

xebec--We cannot conjecture what this ma- 1780
nœuvre will demonſtrate. June

Laſt night ſailed from the New Mole, a 15th
20 gun ſhip for England, with diſpatches.
Wind N. E. Came in a ſmall ſettee from
the eaſtward, with fruit.

Arrived in the night from Algaziras, a 18th
boat with ſix deſerters belonging to the naval
and marine ſervice of the enemy :---They
ſay that our opponents are heartily tired of
their ſituation.

Wind W. This day arrived at Algaziras, 19th
a frigate and three large xebecs, accompa-
nied by a Mooriſh corſair.

Came in a ſmall boat, with a few ſheep 20th
and fowls.

Laſt night our batteries kept a hot and in- 22d
ceſſant fire upon the enemy's working par-
ties; they laboured uncommonly hard at
their approaches, as we heard the clink of
their hammers during the whole courſe of
the night. We did not obſerve any additi-
onal work this morning, ſo that we conclude
they were nailing down platforms in their
works. We continue our working parties
on the batteries, which are in extreme good
condition to annoy the foe.

Wind E. Came in a tartan, from Minor- 23d
ca, with leather, wine and charcoal. An
excellent ſupply---ſhoes being much want-
ed to preſerve the feet in our labours on the
Rock,

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1780 June 23d Rock, (which are ſold at 20 and 22 rials per pair) wine to ſtrengthen and revive our ſpirits, and charcoal to dreſs our diet, as firing is become a very ſcarce article; the wrecks of the fire-ſhips deſtroyed on the 7th inſtant, which furniſhed a preſent ſupply, being almoſt exhauſted, we ſhall find ourſelves very uncomfortably circumſtanced, and greatly neceſſitated in a ſhort time for a ſufficiency for cooking. A Portugueſe fiſherman who had pulled a rib from one of the wrecks, on the morning of their deſtruction, and towed it to ſhore with his boat, received nine dollars for the ſmall purchaſe.

24th This forenoon a Spaniſh 70 gun ſhip from the E. having an Engliſh enſign on her fore-top-maſt-head, and a yellow flag over it, as a ſignal of defiance, ſtretched in cloſe towards Roſia Bay, accompanied with two frigates and a xebec, and opened their fire on the Panther and Enterprize: our ſhipping and batteries made a briſk return,----the 70 gun ſhip received ſeveral ſhot,-----the xebec had one of her ſails damaged, and her boom carried away:---three of the enemy's ſhot came on ſhore; one fell at Europa, one at the Devil's Bowling-Green, and one at the New Mole. Fifteen men were wounded on board the Enterprize frigate by ſome powder taking fire during the action, nine are ſent to the Naval Hoſpital, the others remained in the ſhip, not being in a dangerous way.

This

This morning at two o'clock, (it being a 1780
dead calm) the enemy began a fire upon the June
garriſon, and the Panther lying in Roſia Bay. 27th
It is conjectured they were gun-boats or
floating-batteries, but it being very dark, it
was impoſſible to perceive their form. Se-
veral ſhot, (26lb weight) came on ſhore at
South-barracks, but happily did not do any
damage. The ſhipping and garriſon kept up
a briſk fire, the picquets of the ſeveral regi-
ments were under arms, and the women and
children rouſed, on hearing a general diſ-
charge of cannon. It is not improbable to
imagine this to be a ſtratagem of Barcello's,
to harraſs and fatigue us with repeated fi-
rings and alarms from the Bay, and then give
the deciſive ſtroke;---But they have Britons
to oppoſe their machinations, who in time,
(I truſt) will let them know their hopes are
built like fancied caſtles in the air. The
more we feel our enemy, the more ardent
are our deſires to engage them. Every coun-
tenance is chearful, wiſhing to ſcourge thoſe
vain people.

Wind W. Arrived a boat, with ſundry 29th
ſmall articles, from Tangier.

This day, our Town-Major (Capt. Burke 30th
58th Regt.) went out at Bay-ſide, and re-
ceived a parley from the enemy. Not the
leaſt intelligence has tranſpired--The parti-
culars are kept with the moſt profound ſe-
creſy--

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1780 June 30th

cresy---various are the conjectures of the public. The situation of the enemy's works and approaches, indicate a bombardment, and some imagine that articles of capitulation have been sent in for negociation; but this is only supposition.

The enemy have for these several days been carrying stores in covered waggons to their lines: they keep strengthening and advancing their appoaches; their horse and infantry still continue exercising daily, and a great many men are employed in and about their Artillery Park,--we can plainly perceive they have a great quantty of shot and shells piled there. Next month may probably be the appointed time for the performance of the tragic scenes, and for the offering sacrifices to the God of War, among which, should I become an oblation in my country's cause, let me intreat you will not repine at the unalterable decrees of the All-wise Creator of the universe.--With fervent wishes for your health and welfare, I remain,

Dear Brother,

Affectionately Yours.

LETTER

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LETTER X.

GIBRALTAR.

Dear BROTHER,

OF the approaching ſtorm, every day adds freſh confirmation. Our cartel this forenoon went to the bottom of the Bay, and received 100 priſoners of war, taken in the Admiral Keppel privateer. They bring information that 42 ſail of French and Spaniſh line of battle ſhips, and ten bomb-ketches, have actually ſailed from Cadiz for this place, and that 30,000 men are within a ſhort march of the camp of St. Roque. This makes it evident that Spain is determined, if poſſible, to take Gibraltar, ſo that we may ſhortly expect material buſineſs executed. Some conſultations have been held, but the reſult is not made public. 1780 July 2d

Laſt night, wind E. N. E. the Panther, Capt. Harvey, got under way with a ſnoring breeze---ſome affirm ſhe is gone to Tangier for the preſervation of the ſhip, others, that ſhe has ſailed for England. The report made by the priſoners received from Spain yeſterday occaſioned her departure. Our force now is very formidable, viz. the Enterprize 3d

and

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1780 and Porcupine frigates, St. Firmin sloop, the
July Gibraltar and Fortune cutters.

3d An armed boat having come near our ships, this forenoon, was fired at several times to make her sheer off. It is imagined that Don Barcello had come over in her, to see what had become of the Panther.

5th The Spaniards this forenoon, were very busy in camp; several parties practising their mortars. We kept up a very hot fire last night, upon their parties, mostly small shells.

8th Last night, Wind E. sailed four Indiamen from this place: They came with the fleet under the command of Admiral Rodney. Our shipping intend (as the nights are now dark) to slip out occasionally. This afternoon came in a deserter from the Walloon Guards: He swam from a battery on this side of Fort Negro---the enemy fired two shot at him, He says, the Spaniards are meditating a vigorous storm, against this place, and that on the 7th of June, when the fire-ships were sent in, he was an assistant-gunner at the lines, where every thing was in readiness to bombard the town, in case any of those ships had dropped into the New Mole, that the matches were lighted, and only waited for the word "fire."

10th Wind W. Came in a packet-boat from Faro. —She lay 8 days in the creeks of the Barbary shore,

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ſhore, before ſhe could find an opportunity of getting in. The Portugueſe Captain ſays, that it was currently reported, that the Britiſh fleet had defeated the French, on their paſſage to join the Spaniards at Cadiz. How far this is true, time will diſcover. 1780 July 10th

The priſoners of war brought in here the 2d inſtant, aſſert, that ſeveral more fire-ſhips are preparing at Algaziras and the rivers--- The naval Commander on this intelligence, has removed all veſſels from New Mole into the Bay.

Wind W. Arrived a boat from Tangier, with fowls and pigeons.--From the account ſhe brings, we may expect no further intercourſe with Barbary: The Patron ſays, two of our garriſon boats, were chaſed on ſhore by the Spaniards, and captured in that port. The Emperor of Morocco ſtill winks at the hoſtilities committed by them, and even countenances their illegal proceedings, by permitting the Spaniſh boats to go out and ſeize our veſſels coming into Tangier; ſeveral have been taken under the walls of that place. 11th

Several Spaniſh frigates and xebecs keep cruizing in the Gut, and to the eaſtward of the Rock.

Between twelve and one this morning, the Spaniſh gun boats began an attack upon our ſhipping: The fire was returned 17th

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1780 by us, but it is imagined without any ef-
July fect, they being imperceptible to the eye in
17th the night, the flaſh of their guns being the
only object we have to direct the ordnance
by: Several of the enemy's ſhot came on
ſhore, and a gun was diſmounted on board
the Enterprize frigate.

Garriſon orders.

"*Whenever there is any firing from the garriſon or the enemy, or any appearance of enemy's ſhips, row boats, or armed veſſel, approaching, the commiſſion officers commanding guards are to report to the Governors what they obſerve, and mention whether all is well on the guard.*"

19th About two this morning, little wind, the enemy's gun-boats again attacked the ſhipping and garriſon, without doing any particular damage, excepting rouſing the wearied ſoldiery, and timid inhabitants from their nightly ſlumber.

This day a ſoldier deſerted from upper Forbes's, where he was at work----He got down by a ſcaling ladder undiſcovered. It is not improbable to imagine that hereafter we ſhall be more frequently troubled with the gun-boats, as there is not the leaſt doubt but he will inform them how far their ſhot reached.

Wind

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Wind W. Arrived a Spaniſh ſhip of the line at Algaziras---and alſo came in here a ſmall boat from Faro, with lemons and onions. 1780 July 23d

This day our cartel received from Spain, five Britiſh priſoners of war, who were ſick when the laſt cartel arrived. 24th

Wind E. Laſt night ſailed four empty tranſports from here, on their paſſage to England:----It is imagined the enemy did not perceive them. About noon a veſſel arrived from Minorca, with wine, leather and onions; ſhe narrowly eſcaped being taken behind the Rock---A half-galley that came out to intercept her, was fired at by our batteries and ſhipping, to make her keep off. 31ſt

Nothing very material has taken place this month; the enemy ſtill continue their working parties, and are forwarding ſome additional works: From their preſent operations we ſuppoſe that they are not in readineſs for the attack. Barcello's galleys and gun-boats are conſtantly cruizing. Theſe ſquadrons of ſmall craft take day about to watch the eaſt and weſt entrances of the Bay.

Yours, &c.

LETTER

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LETTER XI.

GIBRALTAR,

Dear BROTHER,

1780 WIND W. This morning between 10
Aug. and 11, ſeveral guns were diſtinctly
3d heard in the Gut; ſoon after, we diſcovered the Spaniſh cruizers chaſing a ſmall ſettee, which ſtood for the bay, but before ſhe could get under the cover of our guns, ſhe was obliged to ſtrike. It is aſſerted that ſhe was detached from Faro with the mail, the loſs of which will be much regretted by all perſons, not having received any letters of a conſiderable time paſt.

5th Several veſſels have arrived from the weſtward at Algaziras, ſuppoſed to be laden with ordnance and military ſtores.

12th We have kept almoſt a conſtant fire upon the enemy this week paſt, but cannot make them deſiſt from their labours, which they diligently execute.

Wind W. Early this morning, the Spaniſh galleys and gun-boats ſallied out from Algaziras—a ſmall brig appeared ſtanding for this place; the enemy began a fire upon her, both of round and grape ſhot, which ſhe run through, till ſhe got nearly within the

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the cover of the guns at Europa, when it fell a dead calm, and to our great mortification, ſhe was boarded and towed off by the enemy, nor could we afford her any aſſiſtance. This veſſel was known to be the Dolphin, with ſupplies, from Liſbon. 1780 Aug. 12th

This day our cartel received the crews of four veſſels taken on their paſſage hither, viz. Dolphin, Capt. Grant, from Liſbon; Sally and Rachael, Capt. Hays, from London; Polly, Capt. Coffin, from ditto; and Betſey, Capt. Wilſon, from ditto. The three latter were taken in and about Tangier-Bay, within muſquet ſhot of the town. 16th

Laſt night the enemy threw up a great quantity of ſand upon their works, to prevent the penetration of our ſhot; their approaches are forwarded with an aſtoniſhing aſſiduity and valour; their camp appears a ſcene of glittering luſtre—we can plainly perceive that they have received a reinforcement of troops. From the progreſs of their operations, it is imagined by thoſe experienced in war, that a ſhort period, will open the grand and long-expected diſplay, wherein Britons are to become reſolute performers, and I truſt will maintain with firm intrepidity, the fame and glory of Britannia, and add new luſtre to our Sovereign's arms. 26th

But

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1780 Aug. 26th
But ſhould great Mars, not deign to bleſs our cauſe,
And proud Iberia, gain a triumph'd conqueſt,
If Britons in the battle are o'erpow'r'd,
By numbers far ſuperior, full of vigour,
Not worn out with the heavy toils of war,
Yet firſt they'll fight with martial deſperation,
Nor yield to Spaniſh arms, the envied fortreſs,
Not while a man is ſpar'd to fire a gun!
But this is only mere imagination,
Such valiant officers as bear command,
Boyde, De la Motte, Green, Pickton, Hugo, Curtis,
M'Kenzie, Gledſtanes, Horsfall, Lewis, Maxwell;
With many more experienc'd hardy vet'rans,
(To mention all their names, 'twould tedious prove)
Like tygers to their prey the men will lead,
And cheer each valiant ſoldier doom'd to bleed.

Our Governor has made great additions to our fortifications; ſeveral new batteries have been erected upon the hill, and others planned

planned out. Should the enemy not open till theſe are completed, we ſhall ſing to the Dons, the old ſong of Defiance, and laugh at their approaches. 1780 Aug. 26th

I am,

Dear Brother,

Sincerely yours.

LETTER XII.

GIBRALTAR.

Dear BROTHER,

THIS day ſeveral large ſettees arrived from the eaſtward, with timber and faſcines, they anchored off the pier at the Orange Grove. It is conjectured they have other works in contemplation. Part of their cargo was landed this afternoon. 1780 Sept. 3d

Laſt night two ſoldiers deſerted from Middle Hill guard; they got down the back of the rock, which is almoſt an entire precipice. Mid-Sept. 7th

The enemy keeps our port blockaded much cloſer than ever; about ten of their armed cruizers are conſtantly under Cabritta, ſome at Tarifa, about eight near Tangier, three or four at Tetuan, ſome at Ceuta, and ſeveral 9th

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1780several at the Gut's mouth, ſo that it is al-
Sept.moſt impoſſible for any veſſel to eſcape: The
9th gun-boats and galleys form a chain every night from Cabritta to Europa Point, and in the morning return to their anchorage.--On the land ſide the enemy are quiet, very few working parties employed, their works appear to be complete. We have not received an ox from Barbary ſince June 12th, and every ſpecies of proviſion is now at a moſt extravagant price; a turkey cock was ſold a few days ago for three guineas and an half, ducks are one guinea per couple, a gooſe 11. 6s. a hen 12s. powder ſugar 2s. the pound, ſoap 1s. 4d. charcoal half a guinea for 25lb. weight, oil 2s. the pint, pork 2s 6d. the pound, fiſh at the rate of 18d. do. fire-wood 5s 6d. per hundred weight, tallow candles 2s. 6d. per pound, made very indifferent, onions 8d. per pound, and all other articles proportionate dear. From this ſketch you may form an idea of our preſent ſituation, and the conſequences that are to follow, if ſome ſupplies are not ſent from England.---Arrived a xebec from the weſtward at Algaziras.

14th Arrived laſt night, a ſmall ſettee from Minorca with wine, oil, ſugar, honey, onions, turkeys, and other neceſſaries, which are ſold at enormous prices; many things almoſt for their weight of ſilver. It would really be much better if we received none of them,

as

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as their ſupply is ſo very ſmall, that it af- 1780
fords but little relief, and enhances the Sept.
prices of what few things are ſold in the 14th
ſhops.

This day a company of markſmen were 16th
formed out of the ſeveral regiments; they
are to practice twice a day, and be under the
command of Lieut. Burleigh, of the 39th
regiment.

Our cartel this day received a Midſhip- 23d
man from Spain, a priſoner of war. It is
confidently aſſerted, that the combined fleet
have taken, off the Madeiras, fifty or ſixty
ſail of our outward-bound Weſt Indiamen,
and ſome Eaſt India ſhips, many of them
already arrived at Cadiz; if the account is
matter of fact, the loſs will be ſenſibly felt
by England.--The enemy are buſily employ-
ed in raiſing the merlons of all their batteries
at the lines, with faſcines and ſand bags, and
work openly upon their glacis: We do not
fire upon them now, as we are forwarding
ſome additional fortifications, and probably
they might return the fire, as they are pre-
pared for the attack, which would greatly
annoy us in our labours.

Laſt night, wind E. ſailed the Sally and 25th
Betſey, and another ſhip for England; we
think they were both diſcovered, as the ene-
my threw ſeveral rockets from their watch
towers.

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1780 Sept. 26th Laſt night ſailed the ſhips Handelier and Nancy, with ſeveral women and children on board, bound for England. A cruizer under the Barbary ſhore fired an alarm gun, and this morning we diſcovered two xebecs had puſhed to the weſtward.

27th *"Biſcuit will be delivered to the regiments in lieu of ſoft bread, from Monday next the 2d of October, until further orders".*

28th This afternoon a reinforcement of three large xebecs from the eaſtward arrived at Algaziras.---Came in a deſerter from the Walloon guards, he was dreſſed like a farmer, and ſays that he was a ſerjeant in the Spaniſh ſervice; he is a German, ſpeaks Engliſh and French pretty well, ſeems to be an intelligent man: The manner of his coming to the garriſon occaſions a ſuſpicion of his being a ſpy; the Governor has ordered him to be ſtationed at Wind-mill Hill, and not to have the privilege of walking the ſtreets, as the other deſerters all have.

29th This day an additional frigate came to an anchor at Algaziras.

30th Wind W. The enemy this day brought into Algaziras the ſhip Sally and Betſey, under her enſign reverſed. She ſailed from here the 25th. It is not improbable but the three other ſhips have ſhared the ſame fate.

The

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The Spaniards availing themſelves of the darkneſs of the night, erected a breaſt work on the iſthmus, between Landport Gardens and the Round Tower, about 60 feet in length, being within 800 yards of our lines; and about three they ſet fire to our huts in the gardens, and came undiſcovered as far as Bay-ſide and Lower Forbes's Guard Houſes, where they hung ſeveral bundles of combuſtibles on the palliſadoes to burn them down, together with machines, conſtructed with twelve tubes, charged with a ball cartridge; to each of which a fuze led, intended to kill the guards in endeavouring to free them from the gates; the fuze did not burn to the powder, and the machines were brought in to our laboratory. The centinels poſted there did not obſerve them, owing to the darkneſs of the night, and the roaring of the ſea and wind; but as ſoon as the flame burſt out, the guards gave them a ſmart fire of muſquetry, which obliged them to retreat.—Previous to the affair, the enemy threw a rocket at Algaziras, which was anſwered at their lines, when, in an inſtant, the gardens appeared in a blaze: They had laid a train from our gates to the ſeveral huts in the gardens, which ſoon conſumed them: Fortunately no material damage was done to our gates, nor any perſon hurt on our ſide. 1780 Oct. 1ſt.

This

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1780 Oct. 2d. This day the enemy brought in, with their enſigns reverſed, the Handelier and Nancy, that ſailed the 26th of September. Count D'Eſtaing, with ſeveral general officers from the camp, came down to the lines this forenoon. He was ſaluted at Fort Negro with 15 guns, on his return to the camp, from whence he proceeded, accompanied with a great many boats, to Algaziras, where the ſhipping ſaluted him. The deſerter who came in on the 29th laſt month, gave the account of the Count being expected in the camp that day, and added, that ſeveral French regiments were preparing to reinforce the Spaniſh army, next ſpring, though they flattered themſelves at St. Roque, that the garriſon would be in their hands much ſooner.

3d. Laſt night we fired at the enemy's breaſtwork, an incredible number of ſmall ſhells, and ſeveral fire balls, but we don't perceive any particular damage done.

Garriſon orders.

"*If the enemy approach towards any of the poſts, and at all times where there is any firing, or any thing extraordinary happens in the night, reports are immediately to be ſent to the Governor, and the Field Officer of the day, and notice given to the adjacent poſts. In caſe of a ſudden attack, upon any of the poſts, the*

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the Officer commanding there, will make such a disposition for the defence of his post, as the nature of the attack may seem to him to require". 1780 Oct. 3d.

About 11 last night, there was a great deal of firing at the entrance of the bay, and this morning we perceived the enemy in possession of an English cutter, with a Spanish ensign above the English. 4th

Our cartel went out this day for prisoners of war, but they only received the women, children, and invalids—the seamen were detained. What the Spaniards mean by this is not known here. 6th

This day the Town-Major went out to Spain with a parley; the centinel at the advanced work, at first opposed his passing, but after some deliberation, accompanied him as far as the Round Tower, where an officer came to receive the letter, but looked very sullen, not being pleased with having their works examined—It seems they have good covering for their men there. 7th

Last night the enemy raised the merlons of their batteries at the lines, about five feet higher.

Garrison orders.

"The men to receive to-morrow, two pound of salt fish, one ditto of pork, and half a pound of beef." 8th

N. B. This is for the week's allowance.

Wind

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1780 Oct. 11th Wind E. This morning early, a ſmall ſettee arrived with ſupplies from Minorca, and the Patron having intimated that two others were ſtanding for the rock, our boats went out with an intention to aſſiſt them, but no ſuch veſſels appeared; however, a Daniſh dogger, in company with a Dutch convoy, having come pretty near Europa Advance, which ſhe could not ſee on account of a thick fog—our boats boarded and brought her in. She proves to be from Malaga, bound to Copenhagen, laden with lemons, oranges, raiſins, &c. which articles being deemed very refreſhing to the troops, eſpecially the ſick, the Governor ordered her cargo to be landed. An attempt was alſo made by our boats upon a Dutch ſhip, but on account of the fire from the frigate of the convoy, was compelled to deſiſt.

12th Laſt night, a ſoldier attempting to deſert to the enemy, from Middle Hill Guard, fell from the heights, and was ſmaſhed to pieces at the foot of the rock. One would imagine it to be madneſs in a perſon to endeavour to eſcape that way, as the precipices of the rock are ſo ſteep that the very idea to a rational man, would deter him from ſuch a proceeding.

16th Two of the enemy's gun-boats have for theſe ſeveral mornings, appeared at the Old Mole Head, (at long gun-ſhot diſtance) and row

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row gently along in a line oppoſite the King's 1780
Baſtion, as if they were ſounding—They Oct.
prevent our fiſhing boats from going to their 16th
uſual poſts Yeſterday and this day, a large
body of the enemy have been buſily employ-
ed in levelling a piece of ground on the eaſt
ſide of the firſt guard-houſe near Fort Phil-
lipe: Our engineers are of opinion they are
going to erect a battery there.

The enemy's gun-boats, yeſterday and this 18th
day, fired on our fiſhing-boats, and obliged
them to come in It is evident their intenti-
on is to cut off the refreſhing ſupply of fiſh,
as well as meat. The ordnance mounted in
theſe boats, diſcharge ſhot 26lb. weight,
and are of great annoyance. They are able
to attack a ſhip of force in a calm.

Wind E. Came in a ſmall veſſel from Ma- 19th
hon, with variety of articles: The gun-boats
fired ſeveral ſhot at the St. Firmin ſloop,
which ſhe returned, without any damage on
either ſide. We have theſe ſeveral nights, at
intervals, diſcharged light-balls on the iſth-
mus, to diſcover if the enemy's parties were
working, which the Spaniſh ſoldiers often ex-
tinguiſh by covering them with ſand.

Garriſon orders.

" Iſſues of proviſion for the next month,
commencing 23d of October and ending
19th of November, 1780.

The

1780 Oct. 19th The ſtoppage of beef will be paid for at the rate of 20 quarts the pound, the oatmeal at 24 quarts the gallon.

Officers per month.

Bread,	7*lb.*	
Beef,	6*lb.*	
Pork,	4*lb.*	
Peaſe,	4 *pints*	
Wheat,	6 *do.*	*In lieu of* 12 *pints peaſe, and* 30 *ounces butter*
Flour,	3*lb.*	
Raiſins,	2*lb.*	
Kidney Beans,	4 *pints*	
Butter,	10 *ounces*	
Oatmeal,	4 *pints*	

N. B. 4*lb. beef and* 8 *pints of oatmeal to be paid for.*

Hoſpital per Week.

Beef,	*half-lb.*	
Pork,	1*lb.*	
Oatmeal,	3 *pints*	
Butter,	2 *and half ounces*	
Wheat,	1 *and half pint*	*In lieu of* 4 *pints peaſe &* 7 *and* ½ *ounces butter.*
Flour,	3-4*ths of a pound*	
Raiſins,	*half-pound*	
Rice,	*do.*	
Kidney Beans	1 *pint*	
Vinegar	*half-pint*	

N. B. 1*lb. beef to be paid for.*

Men

	Men per Week.		1780
Beef,	*half-pound*		Oct.
Pork,	*1 lb.*		19th
Peaſe,	*1 pint,*		
Oatmeal,	*1 do.*		
Butter,	*2 ½ ounces,*		
Wheat,	*1 ½ pint,*		
Flour,	*3-qrs lb.*	*In lieu of 3 pints peaſe, and 7 ½ ounces butter.*	
Raiſins,	*½ lb.*		
Kidney Beans	*1 pint*		
Vinegar,	*¼ do.*		

N. B. 1 lb. beef and 2 pints of oatmeal to be paid for.

Wind S. E. This morning arrived and anchored under Europa Advance, not being able to get round the point, a ſmall boat with wine and other neceſſaries from Algiers. The Spaniards ſent in a parley this forenoon, wherein it is ordered no longer to communicate by land, the bay being appointed for that purpoſe. 21ſt

This morning, the weather being more calm, our boats brought round the ſettee that anchored under the Advance yeſterday. About four this afternoon, three of the enemy's gun-boats ſaluted the Enterprize, with their 26-pounders, which ſhe returned:—The battery at the Mole and South baſtion fired ſeveral rounds at them, which made 22d

1780 Oct. them take a hafty farewell--Several of their ſhot came on ſhore.

26th This morning we perceived that the enemy had extended their advance work (now termed the Tower battery) about 50 or 60 feet towards the eaſtward, notwithſtanding we gave them a warm and liberal diſtribution of round and grape ſhot, and ſome ſmall ſhells during the night.

27th Yeſterday and this morning, we fired ſeveral ſhells and ſhot, at the Tower battery, but without ſucceſs, as moſt of them fell wide of the work; the Spaniſh ſoldiers encouraged by this, came out and exhibited tokens of defiance, but a round of grape from Willis's, ſoon made them forget their paſtime. The enemy are ſtill employed on the work adjacent to St. Phillipe, and have begun to make a battery at Cabritta Point, either to protect their cruizers which anchor there, or to annoy our ſhipping coming in or going out.

31ſt We continue to keep up a fire upon the enemy on the iſthmus, which has greatly prevented their carrying on their works,--- they have not done any additional part ſince the 26th. Laſt night two ſoldiers that were centinels at Upper Forbes's, got down by means of a rope, and deſerted. If they ſpeak the truth, they can only inform the enemy, that we are prepared to repulſe their arms,

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arms, and that our works are in excellent condition; this will have a tendency more to perplex and discourage, than animate and please. 1780 Oct. 31st

Their num'rous troops, long train'd to arms and hardships,
Fed up with promises and expectations,
Of great encouragement, and sure reward,
To make them fight more desp'rate in th' attack,

Within our walls the greatest unanimity and strict adherence to discipline presides, a coincidence of heart and hand to meet the foe, and, I venture to aver, a general wish to scourge the disturbers of the public tranquility; dangers and difficulty apparently are disregarded, and the more exalted ideas of fame and glory reinstated. With resignation to the divine will, and the most brotherly affection,

I remain

Yours, &c.

LETTER

LETTER XIII.

GIBRALTAR.

Dear BROTHER,

1780 Nov 1st OUR ſituation ſtill remains the ſame--- the enemy working, and we firing: Don Barcello, with an unexampled ſtrictneſs, continues to guard the entrance of the bay, even neutrals are not allowed to paſs without examination:----A ſnow who kept company with a French convoy which paſſed to the eaſtward, and made a ſudden puſh for Europa, was taken to the ſouthward of the point and carried into Ceuta. This day we fired ſeveral well directed ſhells into the Tower Battery, where we heard men at work.

2d Laſt night two ſoldiers deſerted from the garriſon; they got down by a rope at Zoca battery, ſtripped, and took to the water. The enemy worked very hard till near 12, when they were forced to leave off, on account of our fire.

Garriſon Orders.

The regiments to be ſerved with ſoft bread on Monday next.

Laſt

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Laſt night, between 7 and 8, the enemy's 1780
cruizers fired at a veſſel ſtanding for the Bay, Nov.
with the wind at W. the fire was returned 8th
by her, and ſoon after we heard an exploſi-
on of powder, ſo that we conclude, either
the veſſel or a Spaniſh cruizer blew up.
The enemy labour much at their advanced
works, and notwithſtanding theſe moon-
light nights, and our frequent fire, they have
extended their approaches toward the Weſt.
One of the bodies of the two ſoldiers that
deſerted the 2d inſt. was found floating un-
der the line-wall; another corps was ſeen
taken up on the ſtrand near Fort St. Phil-
lipe.

Laſt night arrived a ſettee, with wine and 10th
ſundry articles from Faro.

We kept up a heavy cannonade from all 11th
the batteries that could bear upon the iſth-
mus and lines, till after midnight. It is
reported that ſeveral carts and working par-
ties were advancing, but it would be an im-
poſſibility for the enemy to execute any bu-
ſineſs, under ſo briſk a fire.

Garriſon orders.

"*When the officers of artillery, command-
ing batteries, want men for working of the
the guns, they will ſend to the picquet, for
what number they judge neceſſary, and report
to the field officer of the day.*"

Wind

1780 Wind N. W. This morning early, we
Nov. diſcovered a ſmall ſail under the Barbary
12th ſho e---three of the enemy's gun-boats ſet out from Cabritta-point, and as ſoon as they came near enough, began a fire of grape ſhot upon her, and often covered her with the diſcharge---She returned the fire faintly, but kept ſtanding her courſe; the boats afraid to board her, two xebecs ſtretched down upon her, and fired a broadſide or two without doing any execution: The boats continued their fire until ſhe got under the garriſon guns, when our batteries at Europa and Buena-Viſta, played ſo briſkly, that they found it prudent to chaſe her no longer. She proves to be the Young Sabine, Capt. M'Clorg, from London, in 18 days, with flour and other neceſſary articles, burthen 200 tons and ten men. She was greatly damaged, and her ſails almoſt torn to pieces, having received 29 ſhot, which ſtruck her in different parts during the action--She had only one man ſlightly wounded. This afternoon a Minorca ſettee, arrived without any interruption, from among ſeveral Spaniſh cruizers, who took her to be one of their own veſſels, till they ſaw her ſtand in.

14th Laſt night came in a ſettee from Malaga, with fruit only—the Spaniſh cruizers convoy'd her almoſt under our guns, by means of a bribe, as the Patron relates, but people

are

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are rather ſuſpicious of her being ſent in to view our ſituation. 1780 Nov.

This morning a tartan, a little to the eaſtward of the rock, made a ſignal for aſſiſtance, but on account of the current, our boats could not weather round: She got almoſt under Europa guns, where ſhe was boarded by a Spaniſh lugger's boat, but the crew made their eſcape in their own boat, and came in---She was from Minorca with ſupplies. The enemy are working day and night, and we keep firing as briſkly. 14th

Sale Prices of Proviſion arrived here with Capt. M'Clorg.

	£.	s.	d.	
Flour, -	3	12	0	per barrel
Cork butter,	0	1	9	per pound
Glouceſter cheeſe,	0	1	4	do.
Muſtard, -	0	2	2	do.
Hams, -	0	2	4	do.
Bacon, -	0	2	4	do.
Tongues, -	0	3	0	do.
Coals, -	14	14	0	per chaldron
Herrings, -	4	0	0	per barrel
Candles, -	0	1	4	per pound
Porter, -	6	10	0	per hogſhd.
Rum, -	0	10	0	per gallon

This is a ſpecimen of the prices as they ſold in lots, but the buyers, who retail them again,

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1780 again, almoſt make cent. per cent. You
Nov. may therefore judge how thoſe are ſituated
14th who have not money, or convenience, to purchaſe a quantity.

About 8 this evening, the Malaga ſettee, received an order to leave the harbour, as the General entertains a doubt of her friendſhip.

15th Laſt night between 8 and 9 o'clock, ſeveral guns were briſkly fired towards the entrance of the bay, and continued firing for the ſpace of half an hour; and this morning we perceived the enemy in poſſeſſion of a brig, which we ſuppoſe to be an Engliſh veſſel from the weſtward.

17th The enemy's gun-boats, yeſterday evening, arranged themſelves in the bay, who on a ſignal from Fort Negro, opened their fire towards the Roſia, the ſhipping off Ragged-ſtaff and ſaluting battery, which was as freely returned by the garriſon and men of war: Moſt of their ſhot came on ſhore, but did not do any conſiderable damage. This nocturnal excurſion, which the enemy had planned, greatly facilitated their operations on the iſthmus, for while our attention was directed towards the naval ſpitfires, they were aſſiduouſly employed in ſtrengthening their advanced works and Tower battery, for this morning we perceived ſome thouſands of ſand bags piled up on their approaches,

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es, which as far as we can judge, will afford them the greateſt cover from the fire of our batteries on the height. This politic ſcheme gained them a conſiderable acquiſition, and will much forward their enſuing labours. 1780 Nov 17th

Notwithſtanding our heavy fire laſt night, the enemy extended their approaches conſiderably. They have begun forming a trench towards the Centre ſtone guard houſe, on the iſthmus, to cover their men paſſing to and from the Tower battery. 18th

Garriſon orders.

Proviſions from the 20th of November to 17th December, 1780.

Officers per month.

6 *lb beef*
4 *lb pork*
4 *pints peaſe*
4 *pints of oatmeal*
4 *pints of wheat*
3 *lb of flour*
10 *ounces of butter*
2 *lb raiſins*
2 *pints of rice*

4 *lb of beef*
8 *pints of oatmeal* } *to be paid for.*
2 *pints of wheat*

Hoſpital per week.

1 *and half-pound beef*

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1780 Nov 18th
1 *lb pork*
2 *and half ounces butter*
1 *pint of wheat*
3 *pints of oatmeal*
3-4*ths lb of flour*
half pound raiſins
1 *pint of rice*
half-pint of vinegar
1 *lb beef to be paid for---the wheat paid for as uſual.*

Men per week.
1 *and half pound beef*
1 *ditto pork*
1 *pint peaſe*
1 *do. oatmeal*
1 *do. wheat*
3-*qrs pound flour*
half do. raiſins
half pint rice
2 *and half ounces butter*
1-4*th pint vinegar.*

1 *lb. beef*
2 *pints oatmeal* } *to be paid for.*
half pint wheat }

N. B. 7 lb. of bread ſerved, weekly, to officers and men.

19th The enemy, laſt night, again ſaluted us with a liberal diſcharge of 26-pounders, directed to our ſhipping—The New Mole, South,

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South, King's, Montague's baſtion and ſa- 1780
luting battery opened upon them with the Nov.
greateſt fury, and continued firing upwards 19th
of an hour: During the action, a gun unfortunately burſt upon the King's baſtion, which killed the bombadier of the detachment, and wounded another man----The head and thigh of the former was tore off—ſeveral pieces of the gun flew into the centre of the town, but happily did not effect any damage.

Garriſon orders.

"*No lights to appear towards the bay, in* 20th
any houſe, barrack, guardhouſe, or other building, after 7 o'clock at night."

The enemy's gun-boats continue their 21ſt
nightly expeditions: They did not injure us much by their fire laſt night.

The enemy's gun-boats, laſt night, again 24th
viſited us with their uſual generoſity; but moſt of their ſhot fell ſhort, ſo that the garriſon and ſhipping made no return. The enemy, it is imagined, misjudged the diſtance, not ſeeing any lights on ſhore, agreeable to the orders of the 20th inſt.

The enemy continue their regular approaches ſeveral parties employed in bringing down to their lines, faſcines, gabions, empty caſks, &c. They have began a paſſage towards

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1780 towards the garriſon, and made a ſortie be-
Nov tween the 7 and 14 gun batteries: We annoy
24th them as much as poſſible, with our ſmall ſhells, during their nightly labours, but in the day time, they don't carry on any viſible work. In ſearching after a ſoldier, who has been miſſing theſe ſeveral days, (ſuppoſed to have deſerted,) the ſkeletons of two men were found behind the rock.

25th The gun-boats attacked us again laſt night;—the Enterprize returned a few ſhot, but the garriſon was ſilent, except towards the iſthmus, where a general diſcharge of ordnance continued: During the time and the remainder of the night, we ſet fire to part of their works, but not effectually; the enemy, however, extending their approaches ſome yards. The work on the Strand, near Fort Phillipe, is now completely finiſhed, being a battery of 12 guns, conſtructed for the annoyance of our ſhipping at New Mole. It appears to be about 12 or 14 feet high, and according to opinion, well executed.

26th The enemy's gun-boats generouſly gave us a few rounds; they fired ſeveral of their ſhot into the town, without doing any miſchief,----one fell into the Product-Maſter's quarters, behind King's baſtion. Our ſhipping, yeſterday, hauled into New Mole;---many are of opinion they have ſome intimation

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timation of a ſpeedy attack----and others, 1780
that it is to prevent being ſo much expoſed Nov.
to the enemy's gun-boats. The Spaniſh 26th
approaches were much forwarded laſt night.
The centinels at the Tower battery, fired yeſterday ſeveral muſquet ſhot at our gardeners, outſide of Landport; they have plundered the gardens every night of late, but now, in a daring and audacious manner, they come forward in the day time, to gather the vegetables remaining there: we occaſionally fire wall-pieces, grape-ſhot, and ſmall ſhells, but they ſeem ſo reſolute, that all our efforts to make them deſiſt, cannot intimidate them—ſeveral men have been ſeen to fall at the Tower battery, but we have not been fortunate enough to hit one of thoſe that come forward--The walls of the wells in the gardens afford them excellent ſhelter.

The Daniſh dogger that our boats brought 29th
in on the 11th October, ſailed laſt night for St. Ubes: The Spaniſh cruizers have picked her up, and carried her into Algaziras. The enemy's approaches are forwarded with an incredible rapidity. General Alvarez, who commands in the camp, viſits the lines and forts once or twice a week: We know him by his uniform and ſuitè, on which occaſion we never fire into the Spaniſh lines. This is being politically complimentary.

This

1780 This morning came in a Spaniſh polacre,
Nov. with ſhoes, leather, ſilk, &c. on board—
30th She was taken to the eaſtward by the Anglicana privateer, who is expected to arrive here hourly.

Yeſterday the remaining Spaniſh frigates, that were at Algaziras, ſailed to the W. ſo that the only ſhip of force which occupies that place, is Barcello's xebec. Two fire-ſhips have been brought out of Guadaranque river, and anchored at the Orange Grove; ſeveral more are getting ready in the rivers, and, I believe, ſome at Algaziras. It is rather probable that the enemy have received an account of our fleet coming here, and are preparing for their deſtruction; they muſt therefore keep a ſharp look-out on their arrival, or change the ſcene, and ruſh furiouſly on the foe.

Root up their works, diſperſe their vaunting camp,
Sink ev'ry boat and ſhip---their forts deſtroy,
Set Algaziras, and Santa Roque, in flames,
Strike terror and diſmay to all the coaſt,
On Andaluſia's province, hurl deſtruction,
And devaſtation ſpread throughout the country.

O! how ſhould we triumph to ſweep their camp and coaſt of men and cruizers, that have ſo long prevented our receiving refreſh-

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refreſhing and agreeable ſupplies: We long 1780
to viſit the Common, at the foot of St. Nov
Roque, to clear the ground of marquees, 30th
tents, huts and ſheds, and to let nothing re-
main but the herbage for the cattle.

I remain

Yours, &c.

LETTER XIV.

GIBRALTAR.

Dear BROTHER,

AMIDST promiſed dangers, heavy la- 1780
bours, harraſſing alarms, conſtant Dec.
watchings, lively hopes and expectations, 1ſt
I ſnatch a few moments to devote to your
ſervice. The period for the celebration of
immortal *victory*, or *death*, hourly awaits
us, and the glories and pomp of battle, in
ſolemn ſteps approach: Martial honours ex-
cite to valour, and the conſideration of Bri-
tain's cauſe, invigorates each boſom to re-
pulſe the combined arms of imperious Gaul
and

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1780 and proud Iberia, which glitter and adorn
Dec. the Spaniſh plains.----
11t Although the God of War, with aſpect grim,
Exulting, ſtrides around our ſtubborn rock,----
And Slaughter, with voracious jaws extended,
Impatient waits, to ſeize the fallen prey.
This forenoon ſignals were made, at the Spaniſh Watch-towers, of an enemy being to the eaſtward---a ſhip appeared, ſtanding for the Rock, chaſed by two xebecs;---- two gun-boats puſhed out from Algaziras, and ſoon got near her----a fire immediately commenced between them, and continued till ſhe came under Europa guns, without doing each other much damage. She proves to be the Anglicana, letter of marque, of 26 guns and 80 men, from Smyrna, laden with ſilk. A ſmall xebec was carried into Algaziras, with a Spaniſh enſign above the Engliſh; many are of opinion that ſhe was a Minorca veſſel bound for this place.
3d Yeſterday evening we had a violent ſtorm of hail, rain, lightening and thunder; the ſtorm did not reach the Spaniſh camp, or they muſt have ſuffered conſiderably. Arrived a frigate at Algaziras.
4th Wind E. Laſt night, with a ſtiff breeze, the Anglicana ſailed from hence, on her paſſage

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paſſage to England: A Lieutenant embark- 1780
ed on board her with an expreſs. Dec.

The weather having proved rainy and 5th
boiſterous theſe three days paſt, the enemy have not been able to execute any work on the iſthmus, nor has any of their cruizers made their appearance in the Bay. The Governor has ordered the pavement of the ſtreets to be dug up as far as Southport: 110 inhabitants, beſide the ſoldiery are employed in this work, viz. 60 Roman Catholicks, 30 Jews, and 20 Britiſh; the ſtones are thrown over the line wall. The intention of this, is to prevent the havock that would enſue from the exploſion of the enemy's ſhells, whenever they open from their batteries, as the great weight they fall buries them under the ſurface of the ground, and when they burſt, they ſcatter whatever is near them for 70 or 80 yards around.

The enemy worked very hard laſt night, 8th
and greatly forwarded their approaches:-- This morning they fired very briſk on our gardeners, who were forced to retire. A frigate from the W. has anchored on the other ſide.

We fired, this morning, by way of expe- 9th
riment, from Old Mole Head, ſix ten-inch ſhells out of howitzers, one of which penetrated into the centre of the Tower bat-

1780tery, and apparently ſet fire to it, which
Dec. they ſoon extinguiſhed.

9th The wind blowing ſtrong E. and the ſea too rough for the gun boats, three ſettees arrived from Minorca, and a brig from Leghorn, with wine and other neceſſaries. None of the Spaniſh cruizers attempted to ſtir.

The enemy's covered-way is greatly extended, a few nights more will bring it home to the Tower battery.

14th The enemy's covered-way is not yet completed, owing to the rough and rainy weather; they have extended it very near the Eaſt line of their Advanced work. This morning ſix pieces of cannon were laid in the ſand behind the Old Mole. They have an elevation of 45 degrees, and it is imagined they will ſend ſhot (red hot, into the enemy's encampment and artillery park.

15th Laſt night the enemy completed their covered-way; they have brought it cloſe home to the Eaſt angle of the Tower battery---- The weather having proved calm, the Spaniſh cruizers again cover the face of the bay.

16th The enemy laſt night, began another line of approach, extending from the left of the Tower battery, towards the Centre-Stone-Guard-houſe.

Garriſon orders.

"*The iſſues of proviſion for the next month, to*

to be the ſame as laſt, except that only one week's Dec.
oatmeal, at a pint each ration, can be ſpared 16th
to leave the uſual ſupply for the hoſpitals."

The enemy extended their approaches 17th
ſome yards laſt night, and we, with our u-
ſual liberality of ſhot and ſhells, repaid their
labours. Several ſettees, and polacres ar-
rived from the E. at Algaziras.

Wind W. Laſt night a firing was heard 21ſt
from the offing for near an hour, which
proved to be the Speedwell cutter, with diſ-
patches from England, engaging a xebec,
which was under the neceſſity of putting
into Ceuta to repair her damages. The in-
telligence brought by the Speedwell, is at
preſent kept ſecret.

Arrived the Hannah privateer, from Eng. 23d
land, with cheeſe, beef, pork, butter, &c.
---a very good ſupply. It muſt ſenſibly
aggravate Barcello, notwithſtanding the at-
tention and alertneſs of his armed boats and
cruizers, that veſſels ſo frequently drop in
here.

This day the deſerter that came in the 25th
28th of September was ſent to the Provoſt,
he being, from indubitable facts, proved a
ſpy. Several writings were found in his
poſſeſſion, inſcribed to a Spaniſh officer, to-
gether with a plan of the garriſon, ſewed up
in a coarſe cloth. Among other paſſages
he

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1780 he ſays, that, " Between the Advance, and
Dec. Dead-man's-hole, the ſhore is ſo bold, that
25th they may bring their ſhipping cloſe to the
rocks and land their men from off the yards;
and, after this is done, to take poſſeſſion of
the travelling pieces of cannon on Wind-
mill-hill, draw them to the South-parade,
and cannonade the town." Came in laſt
night, the ſnow Kitty and Polly, from Li-
verpool, with butter, flour, cheeſe, and po-
tatoes; the latter ſells at one rial and a half
per pound. Deſerted, a ſoldier in the night.

29th This day two Mooriſh veſſels were carri-
ed into Algaziras; it is conjectured they
were deſtined for this place.

30th This forenoon a ſettee belonging to the
enemy was becalmed off Europa, and our
boats went out and boarded her; the crew
eſcaped—She had two pigs and ſome empty
caſks on board. It is ſome time ſince we
had the ſatisfaction to hoiſt the Engliſh co-
lours over the Spaniſh.

31ſt This morning a Tartan laden with brandy
and ſugar, came in from Minorca. She
brings no particular intelligence. Laſt
night a ſerjeant deſerted from the back of
the rock.

The enemy keep attentively at work, and
forward their approaches and cover'd retreats
with the utmoſt ſpirit; their heavy loſs of
men does not diſcourage their operations—
they

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they ſeem intent and determined to capture Gibraltar. Probably the next year will decide the conteſt: If they ſhould be ſucceſsful and take the garriſon, it will be an expedition worthy of record; but we have not the leaſt idea of this nature, our batteries are ſo well mounted with heavy ordnance, and manned with Britons, that the name of being conquered is laughed at as an abſurdity. 1780 Dec. 31ſt

I am,

Dear Brother,

Affectionately yours.

LETTER XV.

GIBRALTAR.

Dear BROTHER,

OUR proſpect is but gloomy; the enemy are very buſy, and are ſtill forwarding works of annoyance. It is conjectured as ſoon as the bomb-battery is completed, that the 1781 Jan. 10th

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1781 the paſtime will begin; but I hope, this year
Jan. will terminate with victory to Old England.

10th This day under flag of truce, the two Mooriſh galleys, that arrived the 29th of laſt month, were conducted from Algaziras to this place; they have brought Conſul Logie, and the Britiſh families and Jews from Tangier. We learn that hoſtilities are commenced by the Barbarians againſt us, and that the Emperor of Morroco has ſold the ports of Tangier and Tetuan, to His Catholick Majeſty; by this means the enemy conclude Gibraltar their own, and that famine will compel us to capitulate. I hope their expectations will be fruſtrated, and that in ſpite of the united efforts of our foes, the Britiſh enſigns will ever be kept flying here.

14th Garriſon orders.

"*The centries on the ſea-line, are not to ſuffer any perſon, to land under any part of the line-wall, or upon the rocks towards the Southward, or to remain on ſhore there after firſt gun-fire, but to fire upon whoever they may diſcover, either on ſhore, or attempting to land after that time.*"

15th Laſt night a Spaniſh frigate was drove by a ſtorm under our walls, the garriſon took her for an Engliſh veſſel, therefore did not fire upon her; a heavy rain coming on, and

a

a thick haze upon the water, ſhe eſcaped unperceived till this morning. The two Mooriſh galleys ſailed from hence to the Weſt.

1781 Jan. 15th

Garriſon Orders.

Ration of Proviſion from 15th January to the 11th February.

Officers per Month.

28*lb. of bread,*
4 *do. of pork,*
4 *do. of beef,*
4 *pints of peaſe,*
10 *ounces of butter,*
1 *and a half pound of cheeſe, in lieu of two pounds of beef.*

4 *pints of kidney-beans,*
4 *do. of wheat,*
3*lb. of flour,*
2*lb. of raiſins,*
} *in lieu of* 12 *pints of peaſe and* 30 *ounces of butter.*

Hoſpital per Week.

7*lb. of bread.*
1*lb. of beef,*
1 *do. of pork,*
2 *and half ounces of butter,*
6 *ounces of cheeſe, in lieu of half pound of beef.*

1 *pint*

1781 Jan.

1 *pint of wheat,*
3-4*ths pound of flour,*
1 *pound of rice,*
half pound of raisins,
} *in lieu of* 4 *pints peaſe, and* 7 *and a half ounces of butter.*

3 *pints of oatmeal*
half pint of vinegar.
N. B. 1*lb. of beef to be paid for.*

Men per week.

7*lb of bread*
1*lb of beef*
1*lb of pork*
1 *pint of peaſe*
2 *ounces and half butter*
6 *ounces of cheeſe, in lieu of half-pound of beef*
3-*qrs lb. of flour*
1 *pint f wheat*
1 *pint kidney beans*
half lb. raiſins
1-*qr pint vinegar*
} *In lieu of* 3 *pints of peaſe, and* 7 *and half ounces butter.*

N. B. 1*lb. of beef and* 3 *pints of oatmeal to be paid for.*

25th Yeſterday evening, a ſoldier deſerted, ſuppoſed from the heights of the rock.

28th Wind S. E. Arrived the Tartar, a French prize, of 26 guns, from Leghorn, with wine, oil, brandy, &c. She picked up at ſea, the Brilliant's long-boat, which make us imagine that frigate was forced to the eaſtward, with the ſtrong northerly wind.

Wind

Wind E. Laſt night ſailed the Tartar privateer, (that arrived here the 18th inſt.) The enemy threw ſeveral rockets from their towers, and this morning we obſerved a xebec returning from the gut without her prey. On the land ſide the enemy continue their labours, nor are we remiſs in annoying them. Three ſoldiers are miſſing, ſuppoſed to have deſerted. 1781 Jan. 29th

Wind S. E. Arrived a large ſettee and a tartan from Minorca, with wine, &c. They bring word of the Brilliant's ſafe arrival in that port. 30th

Wind S. W. Yeſterday evening ſailed a brig from hence, bound to Mahon with ſupplies. The enemy extended their approaches about five yards laſt night, and threw up ſeveral heaps of ſand---Some infantry have marched into their camp, reported to have landed at Cadiz. Barcello remains at anchor, but his cruizers frequently come over to peep at our works, and obſerve the ſituation of our navy. 31ſt

I am,

Dear Brother, yours, &c.

LETTER

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LETTER XVI.

GIBRALTAR.

Dear BROTHER,

1781 Feb. 1st. NOTWITHSTANDING every effort, and the moſt ſtudious inventions of annoyance, that poſſibly could be adopted or executed, we have hitherto found ourſelves inadequate to retard the progreſs of the enemy's operations. Hiſtory has partially recorded that cowardice generally characterized their conduct; but here give me leave to do juſtice to our aſſailants, who have invariably, from the period of their firſt labours, to the preſent forwardneſs of their approaches, ſhewn a martial ſpirit, and undaunted reſolution.

From eve to morn their heavy works go on,
And threat'ning batt'ries riſe, 'midſt ſhow'rs of ſhot;
Our Rock, like burning *Ætna*, red with flames,
Whole volleys of deſtruction vomits forth;
While *Death*, with horrid grimace, hovers round 'em,

And

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And ſcenes of blood beſmear their opera- 1781
tions, Feb.
Strew'd o'er with mangled limbs, and 1ſt
heaps of ſlain,
With ſtedfaſt valour, fix'd determination,
They labour, and bring forward their
advances.

I ſhall endeavour in the ſeries of letters, to give every tranſaction, circumſtance, and event, during the Siege, a true deſcription and illuſtration, to array martial merit in fulleſt ſplendor, and to crown each diſtinguiſhed hero with deſerving laurels.

The enemy extended another branch of their approaches laſt night, compoſed of facines and ſand bags.--We fired in the courſe of an hour 300 rounds of ſhot & ſhells. This morning a ſoldier deſerted from the garriſon.

Our men of war's boats went round to the 2d
back of the rock this forenoon, where they found the bodies of the ſoldier (miſſing yeſterday) and the ſerjeant mentioned 31ſt of December laſt, both in a ſhattered condition. It is aſtoniſhing, notwithſtanding the tremendious inſtances, ſo frequently exhibited, they have not ſufficient terror, to prevent men from endeavouring to eſcape to the enemy, even if conſcience was bereft of feeling, and the regard for king, country, relatives, and friends obliviated, one would imagine

the

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1781 the conſideration of ſelf-preſervation would
Feb. alone effect it.

8th This morning at day-break, came in a deſerter from the enemy: He ſays, "That the Spaniſh General has received an order to recall the working parties, in conſequence of a propoſition made to the Court of Great-Britain, of ſix million of money, and a free trade for the garriſon." There is not the greateſt reliance placed upon his intelligence, but looked upon as a ſtratagem of General Alvarez, to gain more liberty in the execution of his further projections.

11th Wind E. Arrived the Saliſbury privateer, from Minorca—A large xebec, and ſeveral galleys endeavoured to ſlip between her and the land.

14th The enemy appear to be in agitation on the oppoſite ſide: Several ſignals hung out from their watch-towers, and their cruizers returning to the bay. We are in hopes that fleet is within a few leagues.

15th Wind N. W. Paſſed by about thirty ſail of neutrals, there being a thick haze could not perceive whether they were ſhips of force. We ſuppoſe the ſignals made yeſterday, was occaſioned by their appearance off the coaſt.

Garriſon

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Garriſon orders.

Rations of proviſions from Feb. 12th to the 11th March. 1781 Feb.

Species	Officers per month	Men per week	Hoſpital per week
Bread	28 *lb*	7 *lb*	7 *lb*
Beef	4 *lb*	1 *lb*	1 *lb*
Pork	4 *lb*	1 *lb*	1 *lb*
Butter	10 *oz.*	2 *& half oz.*	2 *& hf oz.*
Oil	1 *pint*	1-4*th pint*	1-4*th pint*
Cheeſe	1 *& hf lb*	6 *oz.*	6 *oz.*
Peaſe	4 *pints*	1 *pint*	—
Beans	4 *do.*	1 *do.*	—
Wheat	4 *do.*	1 *do.*	1 *pint*
Rice	1 *& hf lb*	6 *oz.*	12 *oz.*
Raiſins	1 *& hf lb*	6 *oz.*	8 *oz.*
Oatmeal	- - -		3 *pints*
Flour	- - -		12 *oz.*
To be paid for:	*Beef* 4 *lb*	1 *lb*	1 *lb*
	Oatmeal 12 *pints*	3 *pints*	-

Soft bread the firſt week, buſcuit afterwards till further orders.

Wind ſtrong E. About eleven laſt night, the Saliſbury got under ſail:—None of the enemy's cruizers were out on account of the ſtiff breeze. 18th

This afternoon a brig arrived from Minorca, in four days and a half, with flour, wine, ſugar and brandy: Two xebecs, in 19th

vain

1781 vain, ſtretched acroſs, but could not get
Feb. near her, the wind blowing very ſtrong.
She brings the intelligence that the French have blockaded Minorca.

21ſt Laſt night came in another brig from Minorca. It muſt greatly chagrin Barcello to view the ſhipping drop in ſo providentially, and he incapable of detaching his cruizers to the Eaſt. Very ſtiff breezes continued ſince the 18th inſt.

27th Laſt night, a Genoeſe brig (as reported) with four hands, ſlipped over from Algaziras, having a few trifling articles on board. The manner of her coming, and the ſmallneſs of her cargo, rather excites a ſuſpicion. The Governor ever attentive to the preſervation and ſafety of the garriſon, and dubious of the legality of the crew's intention, has ordered a guard to mount on board her daily, until the affair is more thoroughly inveſtigated.

28th. Laſt night, under a very briſk fire, the enemy threw up a great quantity of ſand upon their faſcine works---It is ſuppoſed their approaches are about 20 feet high.—We this day directed our fire to the Weſt entrance of the lines, as many covered carts have been obſerved paſſing there.

This month has finiſhed without being productive of the deſired ſucceſs: It is to be

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be hoped, that the next will conduce to the gratification of our wiſhes, in the extirpation of our foes. 1781 Feb.

I remain

Your affectionate Brother.

LETTER XVII.

GIBRALTAR.

Dear BROTHER,

EXPERIMENTS of every contrivance, are now in agitation. *Art* and *ingenuity*, which have been long employed for the preſervation and knowledge of mankind, are now ſtudying their annihilation. *Quadrants*, *ſpirit-levels*, and inſtruments of various forms and machinery, adorn the batteries, for the more exact and certain method of *killing*. Every one ſeems anxious to find out, the ſafeſt, quickeſt, and ſureſt method of *diſpatch*, in the elevation and depreſſion of the ordnance. I ſuppoſe in a few week's more 1781 Mar. 5th

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1781 more practice, they'll be so expert in level-
Mar. ing a gun, that should a Spaniard raise his head above the epaulement, it will be immediately severed from his shoulders! The gamester, with stedfast eyes, fixed on the cast of the dice, never depended more on the goddess *Fortune*, than the several artists do for the success and approbation of their slaughtering inventions.

Now ELIOTT's *heroes*, zealous to destroy,
Against the *foe* their *arts!* and *arms!* employ;
Allur'd by *hope* the Spanish *forts* to gain,
And drive those num'rous *legions* from yon plain.

Wind E. Last night arrived a settee from Minorca, with sundry useful articles for the garrison: The Patron relates, that three French frigates are constantly cruizing off the harbour, to prevent succours going in or coming out of that place.

7th This morning a little before the new guard came to relieve the old Land port guard, a soldier on duty there, jumped over the pallisadoes, near the gate, and ran off---The several guards fired 1143 musquet shot at him, beside grape, but could not ascertain his being wounded. He entered the Spanish lines in triumph, yet there is not any doubt but he received several shot.

Yesterday

Yeſterday and this day, we had ſeveral hours artillery practice on the batteries at the enemy's works;--the ordnance was well directed--much ſucceſs is promiſed from the merit of the ſeveral inſtruments under conſideration. The enemy, with great earneſtneſs, became ſpectators, from Forts St. Philipe and Barbary, as our guns only played upon the advanced works on the iſthmus. 1781 Mar. 9th

Garriſon orders, 11th

"*The rations of proviſions from 12th March to the 8th April, the ſame as laſt month, except that no wheat will be delivered, but one pint of peaſe weekly will be paid for.*"

Wind E. Came in a polacre and a tartan, from Minorca, with wine and brandy--The latter received ſeveral ſhot from one of the enemy's galleys that endeavoured to cut her off. The enemy on the land-ſide are very attentive to their employ: We fire pretty hot upon them, as we are of opinion they are mounting ordnance in their advanced works. Yeſterday, a ſoldier deſerted from the garriſon. 16th

Arrived a Tuſcan polacre, and the Tartar cutter from Minorca, with brandy and carravances. A xebec ſtood over from Ceuta, but too late to prevent their entrance. 18th

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1781 Yeſterday evening, the Tuſcan polacre
Mar. ſailed on her paſſage to Liſbon, but the ene-
22d my took her in the night, and this morning carried her into Algaziras.

26th Came in a half-xebec, (a prize) taken by one of the Minorca privateers. She ſays, the French frigates ſo cloſely watch the entrance into the harbour, that it is almoſt impoſſible for a veſſel, coming in or going out, to eſcape.

29th Laſt night, (wind W. N. W.) the Enterprize frigate ſailed from hence, on her paſſage to Minorca. The repeated intelligence, of the French having blockaded that port, occaſioned her departure, and we flatter ourſelves, when ſhe arrives there, our force will be equal to theirs, the Brilliant and Minorca frigates being already on that ſtation.---- This forenoon a brig, half-bay over, was taken by the enemy's cruizers,---the crew, being nine in number, eſcaped in a boat---they mention, "That the Britiſh fleet had twice put to ſea, but was forced to return, owing to bad weather and contrary winds." They brought ſome poultry in their boat, which will afford them a preſent ſupply---the fowls ſold for four dollars each, equal to twelve ſhillings and nine-pence; pigeons, three dollars per couple, equal to nine ſhillings and ſeven-pence; ducks, eight dollars four rials per couple, equal to one pound

ſix

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six shillings and six pence. Every species 1781
of provision is sold at the same rate, and most of the salt meat is quite rotten, the very smell of it is sufficient for a meal.

I am,

Dear Brother,

Affectionately yours.

LETTER XVIII.

GIBRALTAR.

Dear BROTHER,

THE garrison are noisy with tumultuous joy, occasioned by the arrival of a cutter last night from the W. who brings the captivating and enlivening intelligence of our fleet being on their passage for the Mediterranean. We seem to be another people---the very atmosphere is changed--no depression of spirits--every countenance is adorned with satisfactory smiles---a social greeting of friends and acquaintances, with overwhelming extacy, accost each other, "Dear friend, all our wants will shortly be supplied." 1781 Apr. 3d

This

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1781 Apr. 3d This morning two fire-ſhips were removed from Algaziras towards Cabritta Point, intended by the enemy to run in among our fleet: Three others are at Orange Grove, and ſeveral ready in the rivers. We are rather apprehenſive of their being a great annoyance to our ſhipping.

4th Laſt night ſailed the St. Firmin ſloop, the Brilliant's tender, and a ſettee, for Minorca. Two xebecs immediately put to ſea in purſuit of them, with a fine breeze at W.--- The enemy are very buſy on the oppoſite ſide, in getting their fire ſhips out of the rivers.

6th This evening four armed boats, compoſed of a detachment of five men from each regiment, under the command of a naval officer, proceeded from the New Mole, on an expedition, to cut out the two fire ſhips which lay at anchor under Cabritta. It continued rainy and cloudy till they had got within a mile of them, when, on a ſudden, the clouds diſperſed, and Luna reflected ſo great a light, that they were under the neceſſity of returning without accompliſhing the buſineſs, the enemy having diſcovered the boats, and made a poſition of defence.

Rations

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Rations of provisions from 9th of April to the 6th of May. 1781

Species	Officers per month	Men per week	Hospital per week
Beef	3*lb* 4 *oz.*	13 *ounces*	13 *ounces*
Pork	4*lb* 8 *oz.*	18 *do*	18 *do.*
Butter	10 *oz.*	2 *& half oz.*	2 *& hf oz.*
Raisins	3*lb*	12 *oz.*	12 *oz.*
Peaſe	2 *pints*	*hf pint*	—
Beans	4 *do.*	1 *do.*	1 *pint*
Wheat	4 *do.*	1 *do.*	1 *do.*
Rice	1 *do*	4 *oz.*	8 *ounces*
Oil	1 *pint*	1-4*th pint*	1-4*th pint*
To be paid for. *Beef*	5*lb*	1*lb & qr*	1*lb & qr*
Peaſe	4 *pints*	1 *pint*	—
Oatmeal	12 *do.*	3 *do.*	—

Bread iſſued to officers and men 1 lb and half every two days.

Apr. 8th

Wind W. About eleven this forenoon we diſcovered a ſmall ſail under the Barbary ſhore. About two the enemy's ſquadron weighed and ſtood for her, conſiſting of one xebec, one galley, one cutter, and fifteen large gun-boats, mounting 26 pounders; as ſoon as they had reached her, they opened furiouſly, both with round and grape ſhot, which ſhe as briſkly and heroically returned---broadſide for broadſide continued until ſhe got under cover of the guns, when ſhe received

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1781 Apr. received repeated and loud huzzas from the garriſon. It is remarkable, notwithſtanding the heavy cannonade, not a man was killed, and only a few wounded. She proves to be the Eagle cutter from Glaſgow, but brings no account about the fleet.

12th Laſt night, between eleven and twelve o'clock, came in the Kite cutter; ſhe being challenged by the officer of the Mole guard, loudly anſwered, "from the fleet," which immediately ſpread like wild-fire throughout the garriſon; Morpheus reſigned his ſovereignty, and ſlumber was forgotten; each found ſufficient employ and ſatisfaction in converſing on the intereſting ſubject.---We conjectured in the evening the Britiſh fleet was near at hand, as the enemy's towers and coaſt were greatly illuminated, and a number of rockets thrown up at Cabritta.---At ſix this morning, the fleet appeared as thick as a wood, ſtanding for the garriſon, with a gentle breeze at S. W. a ſhout of joy inſtantly enſued from every corner, battery, and height, on the diſcovery.---About nine, eighteen of the enemy's gun-boats ſallied out from Algaziras, but kept pretty well under the land; at ten they began a briſk fire from the boats and battery at the point, upon our ſhipping;--two frigates bore down upon them, and played ſo warmly, that the enemy made to land. The battery at Sand-bay, and the Iſland at Algaziras (mounted with

with 42 pounders) endeavoured to annoy our ſhipping, but to little purpoſe, as moſt of their ſhot fell wide. One ſhip has juſt dropt anchor.---A call to arms prevents my further writing, the enemy have opened all their batteries on the town; confuſion and conſternation are every where to be ſeen!--Adieu, dear brother, I muſt haſten to the alarm poſt. 1781 Apr. 12th

* * * * *

* * * * *

Six o'Clock in the Evening.

The neceſſary diſpoſitions having been made by the General, for the defence of the place, I again re-aſſume the ſubject, on the ſeveral tranſactions of the day: The few moments I have unemployed from duty, I ſhall endeavour, as far as the noiſe of rattling cannon and exploding ſhells will permit, to give you a deſcription. The Britiſh fleet are ſafe arrived, with England's banners triumphantly

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1781 triumphantly flying. Admirals Derby,
Apr. Digby, and Roſs, are in the Bay, and the
12th Spaniſh batteries blazing like a volcano.---
About a quarter before twelve, the enemy opened from their forts, lines, and advanced works upon the town, with ſhot and ſhells. Some of them nearly came into the New Mole, a ſettee lying near the Tanks, was ſunk by one, providentially the hands were ſaved.---Accounts are juſt received, that a ſhell which exploded in Prince's-Lines wounded an officer, and tore the ſerjeant's hand off on duty there---three men killed in King's-lines; one killed at South-Port, by a piece of a ſhell that burſt in the air. Several houſes are on fire---the enemy are endeavouring to burn the tranſports and merchants ſhipping, but our men of war keep cruizing off Europa. A ſhell which entered a houſe in Southport-ſtreet, in the exploſion, blew a Genoeſe woman out of the window, but fortunately ſhe did not receive any other damage than a bruiſe by the fall. The inhabitants exhibit the moſt impetuous grief and apprehenſion, precipitately retreating to the ſouthward of the rock for ſhelter, crowding upon each other like flocks of ſheep deſtined for the ſlaughter-houſe, with dead and ghaſtly amazement pictured on their countenance. The Romans count their beads

beads, and worſhip their idols, and with a 1781
fervency of devotion, ſupplicate their mol- Apr.
ten deaf images, for protection and ſafety. 12th

What horrors are productive from the wars?
And miſeries the moſt acute, are found:
A huſband haſtily torn from his wife,
And innocents bereft of their protectors;
The ties of friendſhip in a twinkling broke---
Where troubles were appeas'd, and ſorrows loſt,
Where joys were ſhar'd, and croſſes were exchang'd,
Where pleaſures were imparted, pains were eas'd;
Where all the joys of ſentiment and union,
Connubial happineſs and ſocial bliſs,
Upon the baſis of content reſided--
Shook into atoms by the angry God!
Like to an earthquake, when her jaws doth ope,
Whole *towns* and *cities* ſwallow in an inſtant!
Thus warriors for *fame* and *glory* fight,
And for their country forfeit each delight.

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1781 An inceſſant fire all night from the ene-
Apr. my's works;—ſhowers of ſhot and ſhells as
13th thick as hail--two ſoldiers, and a boy of a wine-houſe, not two minutes ago, were killed by the burſting of a ſhell near Southport. The inhabitants are terrified to the utmoſt, and deſtitute of every place of ſhelter. I cannot authentically learn the number already fallen, but in a town ſituate like this, it cannot be inconſiderable. We retaliate with equal warmth upon the foe, who conſequently are not exempt from a ſhare in the direful ſlaughter. The town is deſerted by all but the ſoldiery, who now are left to commence merchants, wine-men, butchers, bakers, &c. Here a ſhell blows off the roof of a wine houſe, the troops haſte to partake of the conſuming ſpoil, regardleſs of life or limb, they drink briſky round, "Deſtruction to the enemy." Here are parties boiling, baking, roaſting, frying, &c. Turkeys, ducks, geeſe and fowls, become the diet of thoſe, who, ſome days ago, were eagerly ſoliciting a hard cruſt of bread---Every pig they meet, receives a ball or bayonet, and this is performed with an unconcern and calmneſs ſcarce to be credited, amidſt a heavy fire, diſregarding the ſupreme juriſdiction of the mighty God of War. Thus they roll

roll in plenty at the hazard of their lives. 781
nor can the precautions and vigilance of the Apr.
officers, prevent them from profufely enjoy- 15th
ing the varieties of a town once flourifhing and peopled, brilliant in commercial and military affairs: From Waterport to Southport houfes are blazing, and fhot battering down thofe that will not burn. The element appears in a conflagation, as if JEHOVAH had fummoned the guilty world to appear in his awful prefence, darting his angry thunder-bolts to fend them to fwift deftruction, flafhing of guns, mortars, howitzers, and exploding fhells. One minute a fhot batters a houfe about your ears, and the next a fhell drops at your feet; here you lay proftrate, waiting the mercy of the explofion:--If you efcape unhurt, you are perfectly ftunned, and almoft fuffocated with an intollerable ftench of powder and compofition:--On every hand flaughtered objects lay before us, harrowing up the tender feelings of the foul; one looks an arm or leg, another cut through the body, a third has his head fmafhed, and a fourth is blown to pieces, with the burfting of a fhell Thus in a moment do they launch into eternity, probably without time to utter the ejaculation, "GOD be merciful to me." Blood,

cries,

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1781 cries, groans, wounds and contuſions, in
Apr. in every part are to be ſeen and heard!---
13th Indulgent parents lamenting the loſs of ſons, and women and children for huſbands and fathers. Here we behold paſſions unfeigned, grief without mockery, and diſtreſs without a veil!

A detachment is ordered to march, to reinforce a part of the works conſidered too weak for a ſtrong attack, or to relieve another who have ſtood 24 hours facing an inveterate foe; probably before they reach the poſt, my comrade falls by my ſide, and with a tender regret gazes on me, while I puſh forward to the battery or guard, and leave him to groan out his laſt accents, weltering in blood!--My acquaintance receives a wound, and my beſt of friends looſes the arm that was ever ready to cheriſh and ſupply. Sympathetic feeling melts my ſoul! I dare not weep, but aſſuming the aſpect of a ferocious ſavage, I trip it away minutely expecting nature's diſſolution. Pangs, ſufferings, and bleeding ſpectacles, with a military man, is denied operation: probably with a boſom overloaded with the moſt poignant grief and anguiſh, a heart pierced with excruciating woes, you ſally forth to meet

meet the daring foe, you receive a wound—you are left to bleed--the foe purſues--your detachment retreats--you find Death buſy--the lamp of life faintly burns—your friends are abſent--the foe ſhews no tenderneſs—you ſigh, weep, groan, pray, beg, intreat, and in the bitter agonies implore Almighty God to be merciful to a poor ſinner--life hangs on a hair--the cordage of your heart cracks, and you drop into an unknown world, where the ſecrets of all hearts are diſcloſed. Your body, which once was coſtly arrayed in faſhionable attire, is denied the form of chriſtian burial, rich and poor, without diſcrimination, are tumbled into a hole or ditch, a prey for worms and crawling inſects. 1781 Apr. 13th

A huſband is called upon for duty, the ſervice demands his immediate preſence, nor dare he ſtay to take his farewell, by imprinting an affectionate kiſs; the thundering Mars, envious of his felicity, raiſes the javelin for deſtruction, and levels his commiſerating partner, while he is abſent; not ſatisfied with lopping off ſo material a branch of happineſs, but extends his deciſive commands over their tender offspring. On his return (O ſenſibility) what a ravaging ſcene

is

1781 Apr. 13th

is preſented to his view! let imagination conceive;--a wife that ſoothed his every uneaſineſs, and ſoftened the rigours of his fate, alas! no more--His dear beloved children that prattled with a thouſand innocent and engaging ſmiles, and liſped forth their duteous accents, that tended to diſſipate the heart corroding cares of life, and promiſing to be a comfort in his aged days, are now reduced to a lifeleſs lump of clay. Will not his heart break forth in exclamation, "*Oh! my beloved wife--my charming Harry, my amiable Polly;--not ſuffered to kiſs thoſe lips while warm, nor to preſs you to a boſom to which you was ever dear.*"

What inexpreſſible anguiſh muſt the performers feel in the trying ſcenes and tragical exhibitions, delineated with the moſt deſcriptive wretchedneſs and miſery. This muſt move pity in every heart, if not ſteeled againſt every humanizing principle, nor will imagination allow the ſuggeſtion, that thoſe who reſide at home, enjoying the deliciouſneſs of life, encompaſſed with every agreeable variety, and bleſt with ſweets untaſted, can refuſe their MITE, either of coin or friendſhip, to the ſoldier, who returns from the wars, to his native ſhore, enobled

enobled with ſcars, and feſtering ſores, or 1781
amputated members, the grand enſigns of Apr.
martial honors.

The enemy continue the bombardment. 14th
Many ſoldiers killed and wounded: It is
computed they fire about 3000 ſhot and
ſhells every 24 hours. Many houſes are
blown to pieces with the ſhells, and others
burnt down. This forenoon eleven gun
boats began a fire upon our ſhipping, and
carried away the fore-top-maſt of one of
the men of war. Theſe inſect ſwarms
of gun-boats, contribute their quota to
render our days and nights infinitely miſe-
rable and alarming, ſeizing on our retired
hours like nightly robbers, who fill the
mind with the moſt agonizing apprehenſion,
awakening us from the repoſe wearied nature
indulges, and before you can ſcarce open
your eyes or enquire the cauſe of the alarm,
you behold horror ſtaring you in the face,
or feel a precious limb miſerably mangled,
or haſtily torn away.

How diſtreſſing this! no place of ſafety!
not one ſpot, but theſe furies claiming pre-
eminence with the infernal powers, diſcharge
volleys of ſhocking miſery. Overpowered
with fatigue, you muſt watch, for if you cloſe
your

1781 your eyes, you may probably awake in the
Apr. arms of the *grim King* of *Terrors*.

15th The fleet have not come to anchor yet ;--the enemy's fire is kept up with great ſpirit, and has done conſiderable damage to the upper batteries---we fire in return. It is diſtreſſing to humanity to view the ſituation of the inhabitants, who have fled from the town to ſeek ſhelter upon the heights of the rock, with only a thin piece of canvas or ſail cloth to ſcreen them from the ſcorching heat by day, and exceſſive dews at night; not any conveniency of dreſſing their diet, and the inexpreſſible anguiſh of viewing their houſes and property in flames: Many of them, in endeavouring to ſave part of their effects, have loſt their lives, and others maimed. A corporal had his head ſhot off as he was calling from a window to a man in the ſtreet. A ſoldier was ſo miſerably torn by a ſhell, that he could not be known only by his dreſs. A Genoeſe youth, endowed with every grace and amiable qualification, on the point of nuptial celebration, was unfortunately killed, to the irremoveable grief of his enamoratto, A ſhot killed two ſoldiers, one of which was bruſhing his ſhoes for guard. Our people are aſſidious unloading the ſhipping, as the fleet

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fleet is not intended to remain long here. 1781
We work day and night to get the proviſion Apr.
landed; one party works from ſun-riſe to 15th
ſun-ſet, and another from ſun-ſet till ſun-
riſe, The town is laid in a ſtate of deſolati-
on, the greateſt part burnt down to the
ground.

I cannot, dear Brother, omit penning an entertaining converſation I had with a ſoldier in Iriſh-town yeſterday. I met Jack Careleſs in the ſtreet, ſinging with uncommon glee, (notwithſtanding the enemy were firing with prodigious warmth) part of the old ſong,

" A ſoldier's life, is a merry life,
" From care and trouble free."

He ran to me with eagerneſs, and preſenting his bottle, cry'd, " D--n me, if I don't like fighting: I'd like to be ever tanning the Dons:---Plenty of good liquor for carrying away--never was the price ſo cheap ---fine ſtuff---enough to make a miſer quit his gold." Why, Jack, ſays I, what have you been about? With an arch grin, he replied, " That would puzzle a Heathen philoſopher, or yearly almanack maker, to unriddle--I ſcarce know myſelf. I have been conſtantly on foot and watch, half ſtarv'd, and without money, facing a parcel

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1781 Apr. 15th

of pitiful Spaniards. I have been fighting, wheeling, marching, and counter-marching; sometimes with a firelock, then a handspike, and now my bottle (brandishing it in the air.) I am so pleased with the melody of great guns, that I consider myself as a Roman General, gloriously fighting for my country's honor and liberty." A shell that instant burst, a piece of which knocked the bottle out of his hand; with the greatest composure, he replied, (having first graced it with an oath) "This is not any loss, I have found a whole cask, by good luck," and brought me to view his treasure. But, Jack, says I, are you not thankful to God, for your preservation? "How do you mean, (he answered) fine talking of God with a soldier, whose trade and occupation is cutting throats: Divinity and slaughter sound very well together, they gingle like a crack'd bell in the hand of a noisy cryer: Our King is answerable to God for us, I fight for him; my religion consists in a fire-lock, open touch-hole, good flint, well rammed charge, and seventy rounds of powder and ball: This is military creed. Come, comrade, drink success to the British arms." On my asking him for a glass he seemed surprised, "Why (says he) you may well know there is not any but broken glasses to be had, but here is something that will do as well, (and he took

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took up a piece of a ſhell) Here is a cup fit for a Monarch, this was not purchaſed with gold or friendſhip, but with the ſtreams of our countrymens' blood." Having filled the piece of ſhell, he gave it to me to drink. Come Jack, (ſaid I) Here is King George and victory! "And he that would not drink the ſame, (replied Jack) I'd give him an ounce of lead to pay Charon to ferry him over the river Styx." I left him enjoying the ſpoil, and really felt a ſenſible pleaſure in the recollection. 1781 Apr. 15th

I am,

Dear Brother,

Affectionately yours.

Garriſon orders. 15th

"*Full allowance of beef and pork, 5 ounces of butter, quarter of a pint oil, one pint peaſe, one do. kidney beans, two pints of wheat, twelve ounces of raiſins, to be ſerved to-morrow.*

LETTER

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LETTER XIX.

GIBRALTAR.

Dear BROTHER,

1781 Apr. 19th THE enemy keep up a vigorous bombardment upon us. Our town is almoſt become a heap of ruins, and what few houſes are left ſtanding, the walls are ſo ſhattered, that it is not ſafe to go into them. The inhabitants are conſtructing temporary ſhades, ſome in the gullies between Buena Viſta and Europa, others on Windmill-hill, nor is there ſcarce any part of the Rock out of reach of the enemy's fire by land, but what is covered over either with marquees, tents, or huts. The regiments whoſe quarters in town were deſtroyed, are now encamped at the Southward; a reinforcement of officers and men are every night detached to town, excluſive of the daily guards, as we are held in expectation of a ſpeedy viſit from the foe; General Eliott is prepared to receive them, with military politeneſs, nor has he ſparingly provided for their reception, an excellent repaſt of ſhells, of different ſizes;--round

and

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and grape ſhot, hand grenades, carcaſes, 1781
&c. are ready to be ſerved up at the ſhorteſt Apr.
notice, for the entertainment of General 19th
Alvarez, and his hectoring troops.

Laſt night a man deſerted from Princes-Lines, where he was on guard.

This forenoon arrived a ſhip from the W. 20th
Admiral Barcello is very quiet on the oppoſite ſide, nor has he endeavoured to run in any of the fire ſhips among our fleet. Our men of war continue in motion, which very much diſconcerts the enemy, in the plans they had adopted for deſtruction. The fire-ſhips which lay at Cabritta, are removed to Algaziras, where the Spaniſh ſquadron have hauled cloſe under the land: The fire from their lines and iſthmus continues without intermiſſion, excepting from twelve to two o'clock at noon, when they rather ſlacken to cool their ordnance, at which time General Eliott takes the opportunity of relieving all the town guards.

Wind N. E. This forenoon Admiral 21ſt
Derby made ſignal for ſail;---ſeveral veſſels got under weigh from Roſſia, and in the evening they were all out of ſight: The Spaniſh towers, as uſual, ſpread the alarm; The enemy diſcharged their ordnance with great fury, intimating that now our floating caſtles were departed, they had nothing to obſtruct the exerciſe of their malignant rage.

They

1781 They have damaged our works in ſeveral
Apr. parts, which we as carefully repair during
21ſt the courſe of the night. We have not, as yet, loſt many men in the execution of our operations.

23d The enemy continue their briſk fire on the garriſon, and this day Lieut. Cunnyngham of the 39th regiment was much wounded, it is imagined by the faculty, it will will prove mortal. The following officers have been wounded ſince the enemy opened upon us:

Lieut. Boag, Royal Artillery,
Enſign Martin, 39th,
Lieut. Budworth, 72d,
Surgeon Chiſholm, 56th,
And Surgeon's Mate Kruger, of De la Mott's Regts.

They are all in a fair way of recovery, except Surgeon Chiſholm, who has had a leg amputated.

24th This day a thirteen-inch ſhell fired from the enemy's works, dropped in the King's baſtion, and wounded ſeven men; three of them in a very bad condition.---Our batteries are rather remiſs in returning the fire, reſerving the ammunition for other purpoſes.

27th Wind E. Arrived from Minorca, the Brilliant, Porcupine, Enterprize, and Minorca frigates, two ſmall xebecs prizes, and ſixteen

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sixteen sail of tartans and settees, with a 1781
supply of wine, biscuit, carravances, &c. Apr.
for government account. Admiral Barcello, 27th
no doubt, was desperately enraged at the arrival of this unexpected convoy: After having loosed his sails and made every appearance of putting to sea, he fired a gun, which was answered at Ceuta, as a signal for them to keep a more sharp look out to the Eastward---his sails were then nimbly furled again.

Came in two deserters from the enemy's Walloon Guards. They bring the intelligence that the Spaniards are expeditiously getting in readiness scaling ladders, and all necessary equipments for an attack, and that in a few months we may depend upon being vigourfly stormed both by land and sea. This is looked upon as contemptible presumption, for Britons! whilst led on by veteran chiefs, and gallant heroes, will ever defend these envied battlements and walls from Spain's approaches, and compel them to return after all their pomp and parade, amidst disgust, and disappointment of the desired glory. The enemy's gun and mortar boats came over last night, and fired upon the inhabitants retreats, and the troops encampments; on this occasion, a soldier's wife was killed, as she was hastily dressing herself in the tent,

in

1781 in order to ſeek ſome place of refuge. Some
Apr. others were ſlightly wounded.

28th This morning, there being a calm ſea, the gun and mortar boats gave us a pretty ſmart fire. The garriſon and ſhipping kept up a briſk cannonade upon them, but unfortunately they killed one ſoldier, and wounded ſix others of different regiments. They fired between two and 300 rounds.

At ten o'clock this forenoon, a party aſſembled at the lower extremity of the Old Mole Head (or Devil's Tongue) to make an experiment of reaching the Spaniſh camp, from two ſea-mortars planted there. The firſt ſhell we threw fell within a few yards of the Eaſt angle of their grand magazine, which ſeemed to fill the enemy with conſternation, not imagining it was practicable to have annoyed them in that part from the garriſon, the diſtance being 3056 yards. We threw ſeveral, which fell in different parts of their encampment---one burſt in the air about half way, the ſplinters of which were ſeen to fall near the ſhore, above the battery, [now called the Black Battery] on the right of St Phillipe. It is reported, the intention of this is, to convince the enemy, that we ſhall be able to repay the compliment upon their encampment, whenever their boats viſit ours.

The ſouthward heights of the garriſon were

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were lined with a great number of the in- 1781
habitants, who willingly became ſpectators, Apr.
(out of the reach of danger) of the experi- 28th
mental exhibition, impatiently waiting the
diſcharge; but when they perceived the
ſhell fall upon the Spaniſh land, they repeat-
edly gave loud acclamations, happy in their
minds that we had found out a means of
annoying the enemy's camp.

Wind E. Laſt night ſailed the Enterprize 29th
and Minorca frigates, for England, with
ſeveral other ſhips under convoy: The ene-
my have not detached any of their ſhipping
from Algaziras, in purſuit of them. A ſig-
nal was obſerved this morning on the Tower
at Cabritta, which we imagine was intended to
alarm the cruizers at Cadiz. Admiral Bar-
cello ſeems leſs attentive in watching the
port, as very few of his cruizers are out.
From the land ſide we are plentifully ſup-
plied with ſhot & ſhells; their batteries contin-
nue raging nearly the whole 24 hours of each
day: The enemy are profuſely liberal, and
with an unexampled generoſity repay the
cannonade.

Yours, &c.

R LETTER

LETTER XX.

GIBRALTAR.

Dear BROTHER,

1781 May 1st AMIDST the clamour of war, ſhells burſting, ſhot flying, and houſes burning, a continual ſcene of ſulphur, ſmoke, and fire; whenever I have any hours unemployed from duty, I dedicate them to your ſervice; Death minutely ſtares me in the face, and therefore what I write, you may look upon as the ſincere ſentiments of my boſom. The ſtreets of the town are like a deſart, and almoſt every houſe burnt, or torn with ſhot and ſhells: In ſome parts the ſhot and broken pieces of ſhells are ſo thick, that in walking your feet does not touch the ground. The enemy have kept up a fire theſe 20 days paſt, and it is believed. before they ceaſe, our ſmall arms will be buſily employed. The enemy's gun and mortar boats are firing from the bay; a ſhell which now burſt forced me to run with my papers in my hand, to avoid danger---The groans of one

one in miſery has reached my ears---I muſt 1781
haſte to his aſſiſtance. On my going to the May
other ſide of a traverſe, I found a ſoldier 11t,
with both legs broke, by a piece of the ſhell
which occaſioned my retreat!--a miſerable
ſpectacle. The gun boats are gone, having
fired about 300 rounds at the ſouthward. I
don't hear of any particular damage done.

This forenoon a ſoldier was executed for 5th
plunder, at the place where the fact was
committed, with a label upon his breaſt
denoting the ſame. He was left hanging
till ſun-ſet.

The gun and mortar boats paid us a gene- 8th
ral ſalute; the garriſon and ſhipping made
a return:---happily not any damage was
done.

This day the enemy made a ſhameful ſea- 12th
attack, after near two hours diſcharge of
their ordnance, they triumphantly retreated
to ſpread their great exploits and bold at-
chievements along their coaſt, without hav-
ing thrown a ſhot or ſhell on ſhore. We
imagine that they muſt have ſuffered conſi-
derably on the 8th from our fire.

The gun and mortar boats laſt night again 13th
diſturbed us with their firing, but only da-
maged a few huts in our encampment.
Theſe nocturnal expeditions are of great an-
noyance to the garriſon, as the duty of the
ſoldiery is very fatiguing, being conſtantly

on

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1781 May 13th on foot for 6 or 7 days and nights together, and probably, when it comes to their turn to have a night to reſt in, theſe common diſturbers make their appearance. It is really lamentable that we cannot adopt a means of deſtroying them.

20th Laſt night a man was diſcovered advancing in ſlow ſteps towards the garriſon, on the road leading from Bay-ſide to Landport, but when he came pretty near the advanced guard, he crawled upon his hands and knees; a Hanoverian ſerjeant on duty there, challenged him before he came as far as the work, upon which, he made a retreat. Lieutenant Witham of the 58th regiment, immediately made a ſally, and being pretty nimble, ſoon came up with him, but juſt as he was going to make a blow, he unfortunately fell into a ſhell hole, which gave the other time to puſh through Bay-ſide. A gold laced hat was picked up on the road, which makes us imagine that he was an officer in the enemy's ſervice, who had come to view the ſituation of the place, and how far a detachment might advance in the night before they would be diſcovered. Our guards in the lines fired pretty briſkly, and was very near killing our own officer.

26th The gun and mortar boats came over laſt night, and gave the camp a very briſk ſalute.

Several

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Several people were killed & wounded. The New Mole, Parſon's Lodge, Buena-Viſta, & South Baſtion, fired remarkably warm upon them, but could not make them deſiſt: When their ammunition was all expended, they then took their leave. A ſhell from the Mill Tower Battery, fell into a houſe at the back of South Shed Guard, and killed a child, wounded a man and two women:—The man is in ſo dangerous a way, that his life is deſpaired of. I cannot cloſe this account without informing you, that the mother of the above child, was killed on the 28th of April, by the fire of the gun-boats, and that the huſband is almoſt diſconſolate for their loſs. 1781 May 26th

This day two ſoldiers were executed at the White Convent for plunder. The town guards, by order of the Governor, marched paſt, while they were hanging. 29th

This day another ſoldier was executed for the ſame crime. The General is a very humane man, but cannot overlook ſo great an infringement of martial law. It is amazing that men ſhould ſport away their exiſtance for the gratification of their ſenſual appetites, as the crimes for which they all ſuffered, was for plundering the King's ſtores of proviſion and liquor. I hope that theſe examples will be ſufficient to deter the unthinking 30th

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1781 thinking part from committing the ſame May acts.

30th The enemy's fire is not ſo briſk as at the firſt; they are pretty moderate during the day, but at night play very freely: It is aſſerted they don't fire above 16 or 1800 rounds per diem. Since my laſt the following officers have been wounded:

Lieut. Willington, Royal Artillery,
Lieuts. Lowe and Thorton, of the 12th,
And Capt. Foulis, of the 73d regiments.

N. B. Lieut. Cunnyngham, 39th regiment, died of his wounds the 6th inſt.

We are in continual expectation of being ſtormed by the enemy, but we begin to be ſo inured to dangers, that the ſound of it is no more regarded than an old tale. Wiſhing you every joy, peace, and contentment, I ſubſcribe myſelf

Your affectionate Brother.

LETTER

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LETTER XIX.

GIBRALTAR.

Dear BROTHER,

IT is all the pleaſure I have in writing to you, and receiving letters from you. The enemy keep their uſual warm fire on the garriſon, and we are hourly waiting their aſſault. You are far out of the reach of danger, you may ſleep contented, nor dread a vigorous fire of 13 inch ſhells, and 26 pound ſhot, which here we are continually ſupplied and entertained with. I aſſure you the Dons, in this reſpect, evidence a martial taſte, and are beyond belief liberal. 1781 June 1ſt

Yeſterday evening we made a prize of a Neapolitan brig. Our batteries fired at her, which obliged her to come in, ſhe having received ſeveral ſhot. She is laden with flour, conſigned to the enemy :-----We brought her into the New Mole.

This morning, at two o'clock, the Spaniſh gun and mortar boats came over, and fired upwards of 300 rounds, and then retired; two ſoldiers were wounded, but not dangerouſly;

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1781 dangerouſly; they damaged ſeveral of the
June huts: We fired a number of ſhells which
1ſt burſt in the air over them---it is conjectured they muſt have ſuffered conſiderably. On the land ſide, the enemy fired exceſſive hard all the night, ſuch repeated vollies that it was impoſſible to diſtinctly tell how many guns were diſcharged each time; they have greatly ſhattered our works, but they cannot abate our ſpirits, *Courage is Briton's Prerogative.*

Garriſon orders.

Proviſions as uſual, except that for one lb. of beef three quarters of a lb. of cheeſe will be iſſued weekly.

4th This morning the royal ſtandard was hoiſted on the flag ſtaff, and at noon we gave the enemy a *royal ſalute* with ſhot, in honor to His Majeſty's birth-day. The Spaniſh working parties were buſily employed on the iſthmus, ſtrengthening and repairing their works.

9th This morning, a magazine belonging to the enemy, on the riſing ground under the Queen's Chair, took fire, conſiſting of ready prepared ſhells: There was a great exploſion, and it is computed near 5000 ſhells were deſtroyed, beſides many lives loſt. It is incredible to believe the joy and tranſports exhibited

hibited by the Britiſh ſoldiery, while death mingled with the enemy. 1781 June

This morning a boat, under flag of truce, came over from Algaziras, to enquire the cauſe of our firing at a neutral veſſel yeſterday. It is currently reported that the General returned a Britiſh anſwer, "That they muſt either keep out of the reach of his guns, or bring to, if required." The enemy made another ſea-attack with their gun and mortar boats, but received a ſmart repulſe. I believe they did not reliſh our play, as we gave them a plentiful diſtribution of ſhells, which burſt over their heads. Not any damage done on ſhore. 11th

This forenoon a flag of truce brought over the women and children that were taken by the enemy, in the ſhips that ſailed from hence the 29th April. They have detained the crews in order that they may have the leſs oppoſition when they make their attack. 13th

Garriſon Orders. 15th

"*Proviſions from Monday next the* 18*th of June, till further orders*

7*lb of bread,* 4 *of which will be ſoft, and* 3 *of biſcuit;* 1*lb and half beef,* 1*lb pork,* 12 *ounces cheeſe,* 6 *ounces butter, quarter pint of oil,* 4 *pints of peaſe, and* 3 *pints of oatmeal, per week.*"

1781 June 25th This morning the enemy's gun and mortar boats, diſcharged about 250 rounds, without effecting any other damage, than blowing up ſeveral huts and tents. The batteries moſt convenient to annoy them, played very briſkly.

26th Wind E. Laſt night ſailed a ſhip with ſeveral invalids, under the care of Capt Colt, 12th regiment, for England. The enemy it is imagined, did not perceive her going out.

The Neapolitan, mentioned the firſt of June, was condemned here, as a lawful prize, and agents are accordingly appointed until his Majeſty's pleaſure is known.

30th Garriſon orders.

"*The ſame quantity and ſpecies of proviſion, to be iſſued next month, as laſt.*"

The enemy keep at work---they ſeem to be extending a branch towards the Weſt ſhore. They continue the Siege by land, with as much fury as ever. Admiral Barcello occupies his old ſtation, and views, with pleaſure, the excurſions of his gun-boats. We are very buſily employed every night repairing the damages done by their ſhot and ſhells. We have not had an officer wounded this month, but ſeveral non-commiſſioned

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commiſſioned officers and men killed and wounded. 1781

I am,
Dear Brother,
Affectionately yours.

LETTER XXII.

GIBRALTAR.

Dear BROTHER,

THE enemy continue vigouroufly to bombard the garriſon--They are making ſome additional fortification on the iſthmus, either to ſhelter themſelves, or to annoy us in a greater degree. Their military force does not appear to have received any reinforcement—We obſerve every night ſeveral detachments marching down to the lines, which we conjecture are to relieve the different guards and artillery parties. 1781 July 3d

Yeſterday

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1781 July 3d Yeſterday afternoon, about 15 or 16 ſail of ſmall craft arrived from the Weſtward at Orange Grove.

7th We kept up a very hot fire laſt night upon the enemy's mill battery, chiefly ſmall ſhells. Several carts, and a large body of men having been obſerved paſſing the Weſt angle of St. Phillipe, juſt at the cloſe of the evening, which we apprehended were for the execution of ſome work on the iſthmus.

9th The enemy's gun and mortar boats came over and diſcharged very briſkly ſeveral rounds of ſhot and ſhell. They did not ſtay near their uſual time, which makes us imagine they have ſuffered from our burſting the ſhells over their heads.

13th Wind W. Arrived a xebec at Algaziras. The ſmall craft that anchored at Orange Grove the 3d inſt. have been landing either ſtores or proviſions ever ſince:--This morning they removed to Algaziras.

Laſt night we had ſeveral men killed and wounded by the enemy's land fire.

15th This morning a xebec and ſeveral galleys ſtood to the Eaſt, two ſmall ſail having been obſerved there, waiting the change of the wind. It is not improbable but they are veſſels with ſupplies, bound from Tetuan to the garriſon.

17th Wind E. The xebec and cruizers have returned

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returned without ſucceſs, to Cabritta, where they have anchored to keep a look out to the Eaſt. 1781 July 17th

Laſt night a veſſel ſailed from here, bound to England with diſpatches, mentioning all is well. The enemy's land fire is very ſlack, only now and then a few ſhot in the day--- at night their diſcharge is moſtly ſhells.

This morning two galleys brought into Algaziras, a large ſettee. ---- Hamet, a Mooriſh butcher, ſays, ſhe is laden with cattle from Faro. This will be a great loſs to the garriſon, as we have not received a ſupply of freſh meat for ſome time, and there being very few cattle at preſent in the place. The freſh proviſion, which is ſold now, is pork, and that is very indifferent and ſcarce, being fed on the filth of the place, 8 rials per pound, about 3s. and 3d. ſterling. 20th

Very little fire from the enemy by land, theſe ſix days--they ſeem to be repairing their works, and we are as attentively employed upon our own.--Towards the bay all is quiet. 23d

The enemy have again rouſed--Yeſterday and to-day they fired inceſſantly. Our batteries made but a trifling return, as it is almoſt madneſs to fire at their works, they being ſo thickly covered with ſand, that our ſhot finds very little penetration. 28th

The

1781 The enemy continue firing, and ſeem de-
July termined if poſſible, to batter down all our
30th works--their gun and mortar boats again vi-
ſited us, without effecting any damage. We
are really in a diſmal ſituation---between the
land and ſea fire, we ſcarce dare cloſe our
eyes. On your part you muſt not expect
correct letters; the hurry of the times, the
noiſe of mortars, howitzers, cannon, and
the burſting of ſhells, render the mind ſo
confuſed that it would be a taſk; let it ſuf-
fice that I am alive: That ſhot and ſhells
are my near companions; that ſmoke, and
wounded brother ſoldiers are conſtantly in
view; that we have heavy duty, hard watch-
ings, and little reſt; that our comforts are
groans; that our nightly repoſe is turned to
harraſſing alarms; that our paſtimes are de-
ſtruction; that every hour, we or the ene-
my, are inventing ſome horrid ſtratagem;
and that the next we behold each other
plunged thereby into the moſt excruciating
anguiſh.

Such, dear Brother, are Gibraltar exhibi-
tions, and perhaps while you are reading
this, and feel a ſenſible pang at your heart
for my ſituation, I may be performing my
part with convulſive ſtruggles in this tragi-
cal ſcene.

You

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You will think I indulge a brood of me- 1781
lancholy reflections, but believe me, I am July
as chearful as the God of mirth! amidst 30th
camps, warlike sounds, and all the din of war. I find complacency in a resignation to the will of GOD. If Death attends, I hope to receive my fate with a christian fortitude, and meet honor with expanded arms. With the fullest sense of brotherly affection, I subscribe myself,

Sincerely yours.

LETTER XXIII.

GIBRALTAR.

Dear BROTHER,

NOTHING material has taken place on 1781
the isthmus;--the enemy are very at- Aug.
tentive to the Siege, and keep up a well di- 1st
rected and regular fire. We lost several men yesterday afternoon, by the fire from the Black Battery.

Gentle

1781 - Gentle breezes at W. Laſt night the gun
Aug. and mortar boats arranged in two ſeparate
1ſt diviſions, briſkly poured into the garriſon about 200 rounds of ſhot and ſhells. Our batteries, together with the Repulſe and Vanguard, (which are anchored off the New Mole Head) gave them a generous return: --So briſk was the fire, that the bay appeared like a blaze, during the whole time.

3d Wind W. This morning a boat ſtanding for the rock, was taken by the enemy's cruizers, and conducted over the way. We could not give her any aſſiſtance, ſhe being near two leagues diſtance.

5th The enemy keep buſy at work, during the intervals our firing ceaſes, and have greatly ſtrengthened their advanced approaches. From their proceedings we are almoſt poſitive they have other works in contemplation. On our ſide we have begun forming ſome additional ambrazures on the hills.

Garriſon orders.

" The ration of proviſion as laſt week, except that no oil will be iſſued till further orders, and half a pound of cheeſe will be delivered for the 4 ounces of butter, in lieu of the quarter of a pint of oil.

The ration now ſtands thus per week, Bread as uſual, 1lb and half beef, 1 ditto of pork, 6 ounces of butter, 10 ounces of cheeſe, 4 pints of peaſe, 3 pints of oatmeal."

This

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This forenoon a ſail appeared in the offing, with little wind at W. The Spaniſh watch-towers hung out the ſignal of an enemy's appearance—Eighteen ſail of gun boats rowed out from A'g ziras, and when ſhe had come within two leagues of the garriſon, it fell a dead calm, and the enemy raked her fore and aft, ſhowering grape both upon her ſtarboard and larboard quarter. She plyed her guns briſkly, and I believe, would have been inevitably taken, had not Capt. Curtis, naval commander, ordered the two gun boats, viz. the Van Guard and Repulſe, the former of ſix, and the latter of five guns, to be towed by the men of war's boats, towards the enemy, which they performed in a gallant and undaunted manner, notwithſtanding the Spaniſh gun boats directed their fire among them—When they had got within reach, the Repulſe diſcharged her guns, and as ſoon as the Van Guard came up, ſhe did the ſame, which prevented the enemy from boarding the veſſel—A xebec, cutter, and ſeveral double galleys co-operated and poured in a heavy fire, but could not cut her off from the garriſon. Her ſails we could plainly perceive, were ſo greatly torn with grape, that when the breeze ſprang up, ſhe could make but little way, but our boats having got a rope from her, they tow- 1781 Aug. 6th

1781 ed her under the walls. She proves to be
Aug. the Helena sloop, in 16 days from Ports-
6th mouth. Her main mast was shot through with a 26lb ball; the boatswain was killed, and one of the hands wounded: Such a warm engagement was never known in sight of the garrison, and we concluded that every soul on board must have been killed or wounded:---But Britons are ever brave, nor could the numerous swarm of cruizers the least dishearten the captain, nor dispirit the noble crew, who were determined, rather than yield to Spanish power, to perish every man. When she had come near enough for the garrison to cheer (who in crowds had taken possession of the walls and heights as spectators) an incessant shouting ensued, and huzzas that re-echoed from the rock and skies.

Such instances as these convince the enemy that the spirit of Britons is unparalelled, and that no superiority of power will make them yield. It must greatly cool their courage, and dispossess them of all hope of taking Gibraltar.

Thus Albion's sons defy the hostile foe--
Dare ever to free, and spurn all danger.
From shore to shore they steer with conqu'ring arms!

With

With Britain's royal enſigns ſpread abroad, 1781
On whom the wond'ring nations gaze with pleaſure. Aug. 6th
While George's enemies are ſtruck with dread.---
Ye hect'ring Dons, the Britiſh ſtandard view,
That bids defiance to your fleets and armies;
Nor let ambition lead you on to woe,
But ſtop! before we work your overthrow.

Wind E. Laſt night a ſettee from Minorca bound to the garriſon, with ſupplies, was taken off Europa, by the enemy's cruizers. The crew had juſt time, before ſhe was boarded, to make their eſcape. The enemy keep up a tolerable briſk fire, and we continue to annoy them from our batteries on the hill. 10th

Laſt night, between eleven and twelve o'clock, the enemy's gun and mortar boats, made an attack upon the ſouthward—The garriſon and ſhipping returned the fire, but unfortunately, during the action, we had the loſs of one man killed and three wounded. 16th

Wind W. During the courſe of the night, a ſchooner got ſafe in from Faro, with ſundry ſupplies. They bring an account that the enemy are buſy at Cadiz, in equipping an armament to act againſt this place, and are hourly 17th

1781 hourly in expectation of being reinforced with
Aug. a French squadron

19th Last night several guns were distinctly heard in the gut, from nine to eleven o'clock, which proved to be the enemy in chase of the Kite cutter, from Gravesend, arrived here safe this morning. She has brought dispatches for our Governor.

23d The enemy are diligently employed in lengthening their approaches on the isthmus. Several strong parties frequently appear, which we as regularly fire upon --From their Black Battery, Forts St. Phillipe, Barbary, and lines, they keep a hot and severe cannonade and bombardment---two soldiers killed this day.

28th Last night, there being a smooth sea, the Spanish gun and mortar boats came over from Algaziras, and fired very briskly for the space of two hours and upwards. The garrison shipping, and two advanced gun-boats or Prams, made a very good return, but all ineffectual to prevent their annoyance.---A shell unfortunately fell into the artillery ward at Naval Hospital, and killed a matross, who was incapable of getting out of bed, owing to having his leg and thigh broke by the enemy's fire some time past, of which he daily languished. The shell dropped by the side of his cradle, spitting forth its sulphureus venom,

venom, and in that tormenting ſituation he 1781
was compelled to remain and wait the mercy Aug.
of the exploſion. You may judge what muſt 28th
be his feeling, in that predicament, without friends, help, or ſtrength to make his eſcape from ſo irreſiſtable a foe: The inexpreſſible agonies he muſt have experienced during the ſhort interval of life, certainly were beyond the power of utterance, or the delineations of a pen to give a juſt deſcription: After having uttered a few ejaculations to heaven, the unmerciful demon burſt in pieces, and extinguiſhed thoſe ſparks of life that were unexpired in the wounded man.

Nothing extraordinary this month from 30th
the land or ſea; every thing is perfectly quiet in reſpect to ſtorming us. The Spaniſh batteries continue their uſual fire, both from their lines and iſthmus. We expect every weſterly wind to behold the grand armament appear in the offing, from Cadiz, to give the deciſive blow.---Gen. Eliott has made every poſſible arrangement of ordnance, for a determined oppoſition, and, I hope, whenever the trial comes, that our arms will be crowned with victorious ſucceſs.

I am,

Dear Brother,

Affectionately yours.

LETTER

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LETTER XXIV.

GIBRALTAR.

Dear BROTHER,

1781 Sept. DEATH and ſlaughter continue to be our viſitants--on every hand impending ruin hourly awaits. The Spaniards keep up their uſual fire upon us, ſeemingly ſtudiouſly meditating our overthrow; not only the garriſon of Gibraltar, but alſo the iſland of Minorca has excited their attention. From this it is evident they are aiming at clearing the Mediterranean of His Britannic Majeſty's land and ſea forces, but it is hoped that their endeavours to effect theſe purpoſes, will fall ſhort of the deſired ſucceſs.

5th This forenoon a Spaniſh cartel brought over the Patron of the boat taken the third of Auguſt laſt, from whom we learn, that the French have landed an army on the iſland of Minorca, with an intent to work the reduction of that place, and it is currently

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rently reported in Spain, that the Duc de Cril- 1781
lon had commenced a bombardment there. Sept.
Several wounded invalids was embarked on ſhip-board by order of the Governor, on their paſſage for England, the 3d inſt.

The enemy are very buſy on the iſthmus employed at work, forwarding their labours --The tracts of ſeveral carts have been diſcovered on the ſand, between the lines and Mill Battery, ſo that we imagine they were either bringing ordnance or materials for their batteries,

Arrived from the eaſtward, a xebec and 7th
two galleys---they have anchored on the oppoſite ſide. The enemy's fire continues. Three men wounded this afternoon, by the exploſion of a ſhell.

This morning the Spaniſh ſquadron were 12th
dreſſed out with variety of colours, and at noon the forts, lines, and Black Battery, gave us a ſalute of 27 guns with ſhot: The troops in camp were arranged in line, and fired a *feu de joye*, which they repeated three times, together with the ſhipping at Algaziras. We cannot imagine the cauſe of this rejoicing, as it is not one of their ſaint's days,

Wind E. The invalids under the care of 16th
Lieut. Lowe of the 12th regiment, ſailed laſt night to the W.

The

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1781 Sept. 18th The enemy continue a briſk cannonade--We return the fire but moderately.

Laſt night the Spaniſh gun and mortar boats ſtole over, and fired upwards of 300 rounds of ſhot and ſhell--The garriſon and ſhipping kept up an inceſſant diſcharge of ordnance, but unluckily, during the action we had four men wounded.

Some time in the courſe of the night, a carcaſs fired from Willis's, upon the works on the iſthmus, ſet them on fire, which burnt for near an hour---We took this opportunity of making a furious return, which the enemy particularly acknowledged.

We diſcovered, this morning, a new work Weſt ſide of St. Carlos, extended towards the ſhore. It is not ſufficiently executed to form a judgment of the conſtruction.

A xebec and ſeveral cruizers ſailed this morning from Algaziras to the Eaſtward, where they are obſerved cruizing backwards and forwards, in expectation of meeting ſome prey.

19th Between nine and ten o'clock laſt night, a ſhell fired from St. Carlos, entered a houſe, leading down from South-line-wall Guard, were Majors Mercier and Vignoles, of the 39th regiment, and Captain Burke of the 58th regiment, (Town-Major of the Garriſon) were ſitting at a Table, which

which fell upon the latter's thighs, and 1781
ſmaſhed them. The rubbiſh which drop- Sept.
ped from the ceiling wounded the two 19th
Majors, and extinguiſhed the candle, ſo that all the light they had, was from the fuze of the ſhell. Major Vignoles having put his hand over the table, found Captain Burke in a gore of blood, upon which he exclaimed to the other, "*Oh! Burke's killed.*" They then as haſtily as they could, owing to their wounds, and being in the dark, retreated to the door, which they had ſcarce accompliſhed, when the ſhell burſt, and toſſed the Town-Major from the place where he had fallen, part of his fleſh was blown up to the ceiling, and the walls beſprinkled with his blood. In this mangled ſituation he was taken up, and carried to the Naval Hoſpital, where he ſhortly after expired. As the men were carrying him, he entreated in a languid tone, which indicated a ſpeedy diſſolution, that they would kill him, and put an end to his miſery.

You will pardon me if I juſt draw the outlines of ſo worthy a character.

As an officer he was bold and vigilant---enterprizing and well-diſciplined. In his ſtation he was active and ſevere, ever attentive to the good of the ſervice, he ſtrictly took cognizance of all neglects and irregu-

1781 Sept. 19th larities that came to his knowledge, and brought ſeveral to condign puniſhment, as public examples. To do juſtice to his eminent abilities, my talents are far inadequate, I ſhall therefore leave it to ſome more able pen, who were intimate with him, and knew his private as well as public virtues. All I have to remark is, that he is a loſs to ſociety, to his country in general, and to this garriſon in particular.

While the attendants ſtrove to bind his wounds,
He patient gaz'd around, with quiv'ring eyes,
'Till wearied nature, ſinking with her load,
Reſiſted—ſtruggled---worn out with th' encounter,
Reſign'd her charge unto the tyrant Death;
His ſoul unfetter'd, unincumber'd fled,
To the bleſt manſions of eternal peace.

The enemy kept up a briſk fire, which was as ſpiritedly returned by our batteries, and when the above intelligence had reached the ſeveral poſts, revenge operated ſo powerfully that our cannonade continued till the morning, very hot. We had ſeveral men wounded, during the night.

Sailed the Helena and Kite to the W.

This

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This day between eleven and one, a sol- 1781
dier was executed for theft. He died se- Sept.
emingly insensible of his situation, 19th

Garrison orders. 20th

"*Captain James Foulis of the 73d regiment is appointed Town-Major,* vice *Major Burke deceased.*"

This day we had several men killed from the land fire--the enemy continue briskly at work, on the West side of St. Carlos.

Garrison orders. 21st

"*The ration of provision from Monday the 24th inst. 7lb. of bread, 1 and half ditto beef, 1 ditto pork, 6 ounces butter, 12 ditto cheese, (in lieu of one pound of beef) 3 pints of oatmeal, 3 ditto pease, 1 and quarter pints of wheat, in lieu of one pint of pease.*"

Last night the enemy's gun and mortar 24th
boats came over and fired near 300 rounds, but mostly shell--they did not do any considerable damage to the southward. Our Prams discovered them pretty early, and made a very free return;--the firing from the garrison at them, was chiefly from the New Mole and South Bastion--We took the advantage to fire during their stay, into their camp,

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1781 camp, from the bottom of the Devil's-
Sept Tongue. The enemy from the land ſide,
24th keep up the bombardment and cannonade,
and are attentively employed at work on the
iſthmus, in ſtrengthening and advancing their
lines of approach.

25th Wind W. Arrived the Flying Fiſh cutter,
from England A xebec chaſed her under
the garriſon guns, and exchanged ſeveral ſhot
with her, but could not prevent her from
entering the port. During the courſe of
the night, the merlons (that have been
heightened) off Fort Barbara, took fire, which
occaſioned the garriſon to pour in a great
quantity of ſhot and ſhells. A few ſmall
veſſels arrived at the Orange Grove---It is
likely they have brought proviſion for the
camp, as their army muſt cauſe a great con-
ſumption in the province of Andaluſia, which
at beſt, is but poor and badly ſupplied with
cattle.

30th The enemy have not ceaſed firing theſe
five days, but have kept up a regular and
determined cannonade: They have not kil-
led and wounded many, though a perſon
would think it impoſſible for a bird to eſcape,
amidſt ſuch ſhowers of ſhot. On the ſea
ſide all is quiet, nor has any ſhipping of
force appeared either from Eaſt or Weſt to
moleſt us. The enemy are very tedious in
commencing

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commencing the ſtorm, and really our ex- 1781
pectation begins to tire. They have bom- Sept.
barded us now near ſix months, and General 30th
Alvarez is as far from taking poſſeſſion of the garriſon, as he was at firſt, although they have diſcharged from their batteries, according to the neareſt calculation, between 30 and 40,000 rounds of ſhot and ſhells. He may view the rock with his perſpective, from the camp of St. Roque, but if he wiſhes to examine the workmanſhip of the walls, and the ſtrength of the fortification, he muſt come much nearer, or return without the gratification of his curioſity.

I remain,

Dear Brother,

Affectionately yours.

LETTER

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LETTER XXV.

GIBRALTAR.

Dear BROTHER,

1781 Oct. 5th EVERY thing remains much in the ſame ſituation, as when I finiſhed my laſt letter. Admiral Barcello and his ſquadron occupy the port of Algaziras, from whence now and then, a xebec or galley will occaſionally puſh out, merely to command reſpect. We have not obſerved a ſignal on the Spaniſh towers at Cabritta a long time, but we expect whenever the naval armament ſails from Cadiz harbour, it will be immediately noiſed along the coaſt. The common ſalutation of each morning, is "Which way does the wind blow?" So anxious is every one to receive the foe.

Garriſon orders.

"*Full allowance of beef will be iſſued. The Governor allows each man a quarter of a pint of vinegar per week, till further orders, thoſe in the hoſpital not included, as they are ſupplied*

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ſupplied with the quantity neceſſary by the Director; 8 ounces of cheeſe in lieu of 4 ounces of butter as uſual. 1781 Oct.

Very little wind at W. Laſt night the gun and mortar boats came over, and fired exceſſive briſk upon the ſouthward: the garriſon and ſhipping fired in return, but they did not do any damage on ſhore. We fired ſeveral ſhells into their camp from Old Mole Head. The enemy keep firing and working on the iſthmus. 7th

This day the enemy fired upon us with great warmth, which was as freely returned by the batteries upon the hill. Unfortunately during the time a ſhell which burſt, killed Enſign Stevens of the 39th regiment—Several men were wounded by the ſplinters of ſhells. 10th

The Flying Fiſh cutter, which arrived here 25th of September, ſailed unperceived by the enemy.

This day the enemy's line of battle ſhips ſailed to the weſtward. From this circumſtance, we conclude, that the fleet equiping at Cadiz, is deſtined to act againſt ſome other place, or there could not be any neceſſity to remove thoſe ſhips from this ſtation. On the land ſide the enemy keep up the fire, and this day, it is reported, an additional 11th

mortar

1781 Oct. mortar was mounted in St. Carlos. We fired very hot upon their advanced works.

17th The enemy, yeſterday afternoon, had ſome artillery practice in their camp, but we could not particularly make out the meaning, as we could only obſerve ſome ſmoak, and hear the report of the ordnance. On the iſthmus ſeveral working parties have appeared, which we continue to fire upon.

20th This day a hot cannonade was kept up on both ſides for many hours---Lieut. Tinlin, Aſſiſtant Engineer, and four ſoldiers were wounded thereby. Our fire, apparently, put the enemy frequently in confuſion, and ſeveral men were ſeen carrying on bearers along the ſhore, towards their camp.

21ſt This day there was a general change of quarters with the ſoldiery--Thoſe regiments quartered in town, marched and took poſſeſſion of the ſouthward encampments, and the others marched for the town diſtrict. Arrived a xebec from the W. at Algaziras. The enemy, as uſual, keep up the fire.

22d This morning we diſcovered the enemy had finiſhed a battery of ſix ambrazures, from Mill Tower, towards the Weſt ſtrand, which they began on the 18th September. It faces the Old Mole and Waterport, and is conſtructed on purpoſe for the annoyance of thoſe poſts. We fired very warm upon it from

from Montague's baſtion, and the upper batteries. 1781 Oct.

Laſt night, two ſoldiers deſerted from us to the enemy; they cannot carry any intelligence that will prove prejudicial to the welfare of the garriſon. 24th

About two this afternoon, a great firing was heard in the gut--the Spaniſh towers had a red flag hoiſted, and ſeveral galleys puſhed from Algaziras to the weſtward.—We fear ſome unfortunate veſſel deſtined for this place, has fell into the enemy's clutches.

This day we had the pleaſure to ſet the enemy's new work on fire, by howitzer ſhells from Montague's baſtion, which occaſioned the enemy to redouble their cannonade from their forts and lines---With much difficulty, danger, and loſs, they got the fire extinguiſhed. On our ſide we had ſome few wounded. 23d

Laſt night the enemy covered the ambrazures of their new battery with ſand and faſcines; from this it is evident that the platforms for the cannon is not laid; it will therefore be ſome days before they can have it mounted for action. We give them a a plentiful diſcharge of ſmall ſhells, which muſt prove very diſadvantageous to them in their proceedings. 25th

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1781 Oct 24th A report is now received from the batteries, that a Spaniſh officer (as they could plainly perceive his uniform) was knocked off the Mill Battery, as he was ſtanding upon the glacis, taking an obſervation of our works. There is not any doubt but he was an engineer, which will be a loſs to the enemy, as they have ſome of the moſt celebrated for fortification now in their ſervice.

26th A heavy fire all night from the Black Battery, forts, and lines. This day Lieut. Vicars of the 56th regiment, received a wound. The galleys that ſailed to the weſt the 22d, have returned to their old ſtation.

30th Wind W. About eleven this forenoon, a ſail appeared ſtanding for the bay. Two Spaniſh cruizers under Ape's Hill fired a ſignal gun, upon which eleven gun boats ſallied out from Algaziras. When they came up with her, ſhe opened her ports, and diſcharged ſeveral rounds of grape, and continued firing till ſhe came pretty near Europa, where the enemy boarded her, and carried her off in triumph. She was an Engliſh cutter, and fought well, nor would ſhe have been captured had not the wind dropped. The enemy keep up a ſpirited fire from the land ſide.

Laſt

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Laſt night arrived with a freſh breeze at W. the Unicorn cutter, and four other veſ- 1781. Oct. 31ſt
ſels from Faro, laden with fruit and poultry, a very ſeaſonable and excellent ſupply, as the garriſon are very much neceſſitated for vegetables, fruit, and freſh diet. The New Mole wharf, this morning, was quite crowded, every one being anxious to buy ſomething, although the articles ſold at an exorbitant rate; onions ſold for ſix rials per lb. 2s. 5d farthing, and oranges and lemons one rial eight quarts each 7d. halfpenny Sterling, the poultry at the uſual prices, viz. three dollars and an half for a hen. Common green tea, brought by the Unicorn, ſold for fourteen dollars per lb. 2l 5s. 6d. and loaf ſugar five dollars, nearly 17s. per lb. This is rare traffic! We hope theſe times will not laſt long, and a communication will be opened, ſo that ſupplies may be brought in and ſold at a moderate price; or, ſhould they continue, the garriſon will, of courſe, be exhauſted of all caſh to ſupport nature.

The enemy keep up a conſtant fire.---Their works on the iſthmus are going forward, and their naval and military force remains much the ſame.

This

1781 Oct. This month is finiſhed without any great exploits, or coming to cloſe quarters.

I am, Dear Brother,
Affectionately yours.

LETTER XXVI.

GIBRALTAR.

Dear BROTHER,

1781 Nov. 3d THREE days more elapſed without any particular circumſtance intervening, nor has the enemy appeared to be ſo attentive to their labours. The Siege is continued by our opponents, who adopt every meaſure to diſtreſs us, notwithſtanding which, the Britiſh troops, apparently, diſregard the threat'ning foe, who thunder forth their vengeance every hour.

The

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The garriſon are very much afflicted with the ſcurvy, owing to their ſalt diet, and ſome of them ſo bad, that they have loſt the entire uſe of their limbs, and repreſent the picture of decripid old age. Our Governor has humanely ordered the Director of the hoſpital, to ſerve out daily to the ſurgeons of the ſeveral corps, one pound of onions for every ten men, and two lemons or oranges for every man in the ſcurvy. This, it is hoped, will contribute greatly to their cure. 1781 Nov. 3d

The gun and mortar boats came over, and diſcharged all their ammunition upon the garriſon, while the land batteries took part in the cannonade. An inceſſant fire on every ſide continued for upwards of two hours, during which time, Enſign Edgar of the 56th, and Lieut. John Frazer of the 73d regiments, were wounded---The latter loſt a leg by a ſhot from the Black Battery; ſeveral ſoldiers alſo were wounded. 4th

Nine ſettees came from the Weſt, and anchored at the Orange Grove---We ſuppoſe them to be market boats.

Yeſterday we fired from the garriſon at a Daniſh dogger, that came nearly under the guns, but could not make her come in. On the land ſide the enemy fired exceſſively warm, which was anſwered from Willis's, and 9th

1781 and the upper batteries. This morning we
Nov. discovered that the enemy had erected ano-
9th ther battery on the isthmus, seemingly fronting our lines—They are determined to have a sufficient number of pieces of ordnance mounted for battering our walls, whereas now they have so many, that a successive discharge keeps up an intermissive fire.

13th Wind W. Arrived at New Mole, the Phœnix ordnance cutter, with Brigadier-General Ross, passenger. She had a brush with a cruizer at the entrance of the bay, but not of any consequence--Her intelligence is kept very secret.

This forenoon a cutter from the westward was chased by a frigate, and three galleys, but before she could reach the garrison, she was becalmed and boarded: She plyed her guns in a spirited manner, but the superiority of power obliged her to yield. The enemy brought her into Algaziras, under her ensign reversed.

A very heavy fire from the land batteries, directed towards the hills and town, during which we had the loss of two men killed, and three wounded.

14th A brisk fire from the lines and forts—The enemy worked very hard last night, on the isthmus, and completed the battery they began

gan on the 9th inſtant. We fired ſeveral 13-inch ſhells upon them this morning. 1781 Nov.

This day a ſhell fired from St. Carlos, fell near George Picard's vineyard, where it burſt, but did not do any damage. A ſplinter of another which exploded in the air, ſtruck the South end of the naval hoſpital, which is near 4000 yards: a moſt incredible diſtance for pieces of ordnance to reach. The enemy fired very briſk upon our works from all the ordnance they have mounted; they did much damage to Willis's battery, and wounded Lieutenant Evans, an aſſiſtant Engineer, though not dangerouſly. 16th

The enemy continue their *long-range* ſhells upon the Southward which is of great annoyance. Laſt night a ſhell fell under the platform of a tent where two corporals were aſleep, when the intolerable fume and ſtench of the compoſition awakened them, nor could they imagine from whence the ſmoak proceeded. The ſhell lay burning under the boards, when they opened the tent door to let in the air, to prevent being ſuffocated, at that inſtant it exploded, and blew them ſome yards, without receiving any injury---they ſhortly recovered from the ſurprize, and turned their eyes to the place where the tent had ſtood, but the bedding, blankets, tent-poles, &c, could not be ſeen, they being torn to 18th

pieces,

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1781 pieces, and ſcattered in many places. In
Nov this naked ſituation they began a ſearch for
18th their wearing apparel, but only found the cuff of a coat in one place, part of a ſleeve in another, and their ſhoes parched to a cinder. Thus forlorn they began to conſole each other, when Corporal R— exclaimed "D--n it, I don't care for the loſs of my cloaths, but all my money is gone," he having about 14 rials in his pocket, when he went to bed.

You probably will imagine that a man who eſcaped ſuch imminent danger, would not have let his mind be employed about the conſideration of wordly pelf; but the military gentlemen being ſo conſtantly inured to danger, and expoſed to an inceſſant fire, think very little of preſervation; for ſhould a man keep *death* ſtedfaſtly in view, it would diſpoſſeſs him of every ſpark of heroiſm, and incapaciate him for the buſineſs of fighting.

21ſt Came in two deſerters from the enemy's Walloon-Guards, one of them is a corporal and ſeems to be an intelligent man. He ſays there is 21,000 men in camp, waiting the arrival of the naval power, to ſtorm this place. He has given the General a clear and exact deſcription of the works on the iſthmus, and the conſtruction of St. Carlos, together with an account of the ſtrength of their guards and working parties, that are employed daily.

The

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The enemy continue to throw their long 1781
rangers. Laſt night a ſhell fell at the door Nov.
of the barrack on the Mole parade, where 21ſt
it burſt, forced the door open, and broke
all the windows---The hand of providence
was viſible in the diſcharge of this ſhell, for
had it been a yard more to the left, it muſt
have fell into the barracks, where two com-
panies of ſoldiers are quartered.

The long rangers ſtill viſit the South--- 23d
One fell in Colonel Cochrane's quarters on
Scud-hill, but did not do any damage: A-
nother near the magazine on the Mole pa-
rade, and ſeveral into the Mole yard and
within the boom. We keep a conſtant fire
upon their works, but they are ſo well in-
trenched that we cannot ſilence them.

The enemy keep rattling away with guns 26th
and mortars, and ſeemingly take a pleaſure
in reaching the ſouthward. Several ſhells
have fell this forenoon about South Shed,
and Princeſs of Wales's lines--They cannot
reach further only when there is a ſtrong
northerly wind, which forces the ſhell with
a greater velocity—We fired ſeveral times
at their working parties on the iſthmus.

This evening the garriſon were highly
delighted with the general orders—It is
whiſpered, that the information given by
the corporal that came in the 21ſt inſt. has

1781 induced the Governor to make a tryal of Nov. British valour.

26th Evening Garrison Orders.

" *All the grenadiers and light infantry, and all the men of the* 12*th, and Hardenberg's regiments, officers and non-commissioned officers, now on duty, to be immediately called in and join their regiments, to form a detachment, consisting of the* 12*th, and Hardenberg's regiments compleat---The grenadiers and light companies of all the other regiments (who are to be compleated to their full establishment from the batallion companies) one captain, three lieutenants, ten non commissioned officers, and one hundred artillery, three engineers, seven officer overseers twelve non commissioned overseers and one hundred and sixty workmen from the line, excepting from the* 12*th and Hardenberg's regiments, and forty workmen from the artificer company---Each man to carry* 39 *rounds or more, a good flint in his piece, and another in his pocket---No drums, except two with the* 12*th, and two with Hardenberg's---No swords---The whole to assemble on the Red Sands at twelve o'clock this night---The wine houses to be shut at six o'clock, and all the soldiers to repair to their quarters---Brigadier Ross to command the detachment---No volunteers will be allowed. Lieutenant-Colonels Dackenhausen,*

Dackenhauſen, Hugo, Trigge, and Major Maxwell to meet the Governor at the Field Officers room, at the South, as ſoon as poſſible. 1-81 Nov. 26th

The troops intended for the Sortie to be formed as follows:

RIGHT. Lieut. Co'onel Hugo, Grenadiers of Reden's and La Mott's, Workmen, Artillery, Hardenberg's Regiment, Light Company 56th Regiment.

CENTRE. Lieut. Colonel Dackenhauſen, Grenadiers and Light Company 39th and 73d Regiments, Workmen, Artillery, Grenadiers of the 56th and 58th Regiments, Major Maxwell.

LEFT. Lieut. Col nel Trigge, Grenadiers and Light Infantry 72d Regiment, Seamen, Artillery, 12th Regiment, Light Company of 58th Regiment.

The

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1781 This morning at two o'clock, the detach-
Nov ment of officers, non-commiſſioned officers
27th and men, under the command of Brigadier Roſs, marched from the Red Sands, where they had aſſembled, through Bay-ſide and lower Forbes's, to ſtorm the enemy's advanced works---The word STEADY, was the counterſign. The Spaniſh centinels, poſted in the gardens, ſoon diſcovered them, upon which they fired their muſkets, to ſpread the alarm, and then retreated to St. Carlos. The Britiſh army, in a ſpirited and intrepid manner, ruſhed on, and after ſome oppoſition, gained poſſeſſion of the Spaniſh works, which ſtruck ſuch a panic to the enemy, that the greateſt part ſtationed to defend the place, fled with conſternation to the lines, to make a poſition of defence, not apprehending ſo unexpected a viſit, while the others fell from the fire of our muſquetry. The buſineſs now commenced, the workmen and ſeamen began with their tomahawks, devils, and warlike combuſtibles, to ſet the batteries on fire, while the artillery ſpiked up ten mortars, and eighteen pieces of cannon, during which one of the former happened to go off, and ſent a ſhell to the ſouthward; in a few minutes the iſthmus appeared an entire blaze, and the reflection of the light was ſo great, that a perſon might have

peruſed

perused a book upon our batteries. Thus 1781
successful, the whole body gave three huz- Nov.
zas, which consequently must sensibly ag- 27th
gravate and vex the foe. We kept up a hot cannonnade from the garrison, upon their two forts and Brear-gate, to cover our men, and prevent their sallying out. A regiment of horse appeared near Fort Barbary, but after they had made several feints to come on, they thought prudent to retire. The enemy fired upon the detachment with round and grape, but their cannon for want of being sufficiently depressed, had not the desired effect, as most of the shot flew over our people's heads. Our gallant and veteran Governor, accompanied by Capt. Curtis, went out to be an eye witness of the transaction:---He had a sword slung over his shoulder, and when the business was fully accomplished, he smiled, and said to the men, "*Look round, my boys, and view how beautiful the rock appears by the light of this glorious fire.*" Captain Witham of the Artillery, then came to him, and with all the gracefulness of a warrior, presented him the keys of the Spanish magazines, which had been taken from the officer commanding St. Carlos. The detachment having done all that men could do, retreated to the garrison, with the satisfaction of destroying in fifteen minutes,

Strength of the Detachment that made the Sortie.		Officers	Non commiſſ Officers	Drummers	Rank and File
RIGHT. Lt. Colonel Hugo.	*Reden's Grenadiers*	5	7	0	71
	La Mott's do.	3	7	0	71
	Workmen and Artillery	5	4	0	50
	Hardenberg's Regiment	16	34	2	296
	56th Light Infantry	3	3		57
CENTRE. Lt Col. Dackenhauſen, Major Maxwell.	*39th Grenadiers* . .	3	3	0	57
	29th Light Infantry	3	3	0	57
	Workmen and Artillery	6	8	0	150
	73d Grenadiers . .	4	5	0	101
	73d Light Infantry	4	5	0	101
	56th Grenadiers .	3	3	0	57
	58th ditto . .	3	3	0	57
LEFT. Lieut. Col. Trigge.	*72d Grenadiers* . .	4	5	0	101
	72d Light Infantry	4	5	0	101
	Seamen .	3	10	0	100
	12th Regiment . .	26	28	2	430
	58th Light Infantry	3	3	0	57
	Total	90	136	4	1824

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State of the Garriſon at the time of the Sortie.

	Colonels	Lt. Colonels	Majors	Captains	Lieutenants	Enſigns	Chaplains	Adjutants	Qr Maſters	Surgeons	Mates	Serjeants	Drummers and Fifers	Rank & File
Detachment compoſed the Sortie	1	3	3	23	58	14	0	3	0	0	2	136	4	2014
Sick and wounded . .	0	0	0	-	1	-	0	0	0	0	0	28	6	557
Remaining - . .	5	5	5	48	73	31	3	7	8	9	14	277	179	2431
Total of the Garriſon	6	8	8	72	132	46	3	10	8	9	16	441	189	5002

N. B. Brevet Majors are included as Captains; non-commiſſioned officers of Artillery as ſerjeants. 41 Drummers and 51 private, of what remained in the Garriſon, were boys.

Casuals in the different Corps in the before-mentioned Sortie.

CORPS.	Killed.				Wounded.				Missing
	Officers	Serjeants	Drummers	Ra. & File	Officers	Serjeants	Drummers	Ra. & File	
R. Artillery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
12th regiment	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	
39th ——	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
56th ——	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
58th ——	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
72d ——	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
73d ——	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	
Hardenberg's	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	11	
Reden's —	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
La Mott's —	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Artificier comp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Seamen —	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	
Total	-	-	-	4	1	2	-	22	1

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minutes, a work eſtimated at one million of dollars, bringing with them priſoners, one ſub-lieutenant of Walloon Guards, (Baron Helmſtat) one ſub-lieutenant of Artillery, and ten men; with the ſmall loſs on our ſide of four men killed, one officer, (Lieut. Tweedie of the 12th regiment, who received a grape ſhot in his thigh) two ſerjeants, and 22 men wounded; and one man miſſing. The enemy had only recovered their ſurprize, and beat *to arms*, when the detachment was repaſſing of Landport-gate, ſo that you will ſay we were expeditious in deſtruction. 1781 Nov. 27th

The General expreſſed the greateſt approbation of the officers and men, which you will perceive by the following

Garriſon orders.

"*The bravery and conduct of the whole detachment, officers, ſeamen and ſoldiers, on this glorious occaſion, ſurpaſſes the Governor's utmoſt acknowledgment.*"

The enemy's works burnt very furiouſly all yeſterday afternoon and evening, and are ſtill on fire. They laſt night, fired very warm with grape ſhot, on the iſthmus, ſuppoſing we were again advancing, until a ſhell fired from the upper batteries on St. Carlos, convinced them that we had not 28th

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1781 any men there. A large body of men yeſ-
Nov. terday evening marched from their camp to
28th the lines, to reinforce the different poſts,
ſhould we pay them a viſit in that quarter.

Garriſon orders.

" *The Adjutant General having laid before the Governor the following note from Brigadier General Roſs, he is pleaſed to direct that the ſame ſhall be inſerted in the orders of the day.*

" *Brigadier Roſs begs of the Adjutant-General that he would mention to the Governor his moſt humble requeſt, that his Excellency would be pleaſed to accept of the Brigadier's warmeſt acknowledgement of the great honor conferred on him, by commanding the detachment that formed the Sortie. To the Officers, and every one of whom, he would wiſh to make the moſt* public avowel *of their firm good behaviour upon this occaſion.*

30th The enemy yeſterday and to-day have been viewing the aſhes of their late works, and with penitential tears, moaning their irretrieveable loſs, and endleſs diſgrace. We keep up a ſmart fire at preſent, and it is aſſerted, that it will be continued to prevent the enemy from repairing the damage their batteries have received. General Alvarez, there

is

is not any doubt, will ſtudy miſchief in retali- 1781
ation, and exert all his intellectual faculties Nov.
in the promotion of plans, projects, ſtrata- 30th
gems and inventions, to gain revenge; but while ſucceſs ſmiles upon our arms, and glory ſounds from ſhore to ſhore, the tranſporting melody inſpires with deſperate animation, and invigorates the warrior's zeal to ſuch a degree, that fleets, armies, camps, garriſons, forts, batteries and intrenchments, with all the hoſtile pomp and threatnings of the foe, are diſregarded, and ſtamped with contempt.

I am,

Dear Brother,

With the greateſt affection,

Yours, &c.

LETTER

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LETTER XXVII.

GIBRALTAR.

Dear BROTHER,

1781 Dec. THE enemy have not began repairing their approaches, but ſeemingly intend it, as ſeveral parties unarmed frequently make their appearance---They return a ſpirited fire from their lines and forts, but their iſthmus bombardment, alas! is over.

7th Wind S. W This day, an Engliſh cutter was captured, by the enemy's gun boats, after an hour's ſpirited fire on both ſides. She crouded all the ſail ſhe poſſibly could, but the wind having dropped almoſt to a calm, the garriſon and ſhipping were incapable of aſſiſting her.

9th Wind E. This forenoon two frigates (one French and one Spaniſh) arrived from the Eaſtward at Algaziras; and this afternoon about a dozen large ſettees arrived at the Orange Grove. The enemy has done nothing particular on the iſthmus.

This

This morning we perceived the Spaniards 1781
had begun repairing the ruins of St. Carlos, Dec.
and that ſeveral parties were buſily employed. 11th
We accordingly diſcharged a conſiderable quantity of grape ſhot and ſmall ſhells upon them which made them deſiſt from their labour.

A ſmall ſloop was this forenoon taken off Tarifa, by a galley and three gun boats. It is likely that ſhe was bound for this place.

Wind N. E. Yeſterday evening ſailed 16th
from hence, the Phœnix and Unicorn cutters, bound for England--The enemy either did not obſerve them, or otherwiſe did not think them worth the purſuit.

The Spaniards occaſionally labour at re- 17th
pairing their works, but as ſoon as they obſerve the flaſh of our ordnance, they immediately get under cover, but we endeavour to annoy them with our ſmall ſhells, which drops into their works, and then burſts :---Theſe conſequently muſt be fatal to them, as their traverſes were all conſumed, together with the gabions and faſcines of all their advanced works.

Wind W. During the courſe of the night, 20th
two Engliſh veſſels arrived with ſupplies of butter, potatoes and beef, from Portſmouth, having had a paſſage of twenty days. They bring intelligence that the day before they left Faro, they heard the account of the garriſon

1781 garriſon Sally papers, having been received
Dec. there, upon the intereſting ſubject.

20th Several bundles of faſcines was brought from the lines to the iſthmus laſt night, and the ſand threw up in many places. The enemy apparently have forgot their defeat, and that they ever had erected advanced works; or ſurely the recollection would prevent them from any further attempt to conſtruct others in their place.

21ſt Laſt night, it being a briſk lavanter, Major General Roſs (appointed to that rank by His Majeſty's command, and declared in the Garriſon orders of yeſterday) ſailed from hence on his paſſage to Portugal, from whence he will take ſhipping for England, where there is not the leaſt doubt but he will be received with eclat, and every mark of approbation, from a rewarding nation, for his bravery and ſingular ſervice on the 27th of laſt November.

The Spaniards are very buſy on the iſthmus, and have repaired a great part of the ruins of their late works:---They ſeem determined on their re-conſtruction, notwithſtanding our heavy and ſpirited fire from Willis's and the upper batteries: The black battery and Fort St. Phillipe, kept up an inceſſant cannonade all this morning upon the garriſon.

Wind

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Wind E. Arrived a frigate, ſloop, cutter, and ſeveral xebecs from the eaſtward, and anchored between Orange Grove and Alga- ziras. A ſettee was taken off Ceuta point. by a galley, and carried in there. 1781 Dec. 22d

Wind W. N. W. Paſſed by a convoy of neutrals, in all about 30 ſail---The enemy hoiſted a ſignal at Cabritta, not knowing who they were, upon which a xebec went out and ſpoke to them. 24th

This morning early, died in the naval hoſpital, Baron Helmſtat, taken priſoner at St. Carlos, on the 27th laſt month, and who ſince had a leg amputated, owing to a wound he received by a muſquet ball in that action. The corps was dreſſed in full uniform, according to the Spaniſh cuſtom, and the General and principal officers walked in ſolemn proceſſion, to the New Mole, where a flag of truce waited to convey the body to Orange Grove: A band of muſic playing a a dirge, and a company of grenadiers, eſcorted the decorated bier to the water's edge, and upon the corps being lowered into the boat, the latter fired three volleys in honor of the deceaſed. The coffin had all that art and ingenuity could invent, to render it elegant, which muſt ſenſibly pleaſe the enemy, when they conſider the reſpect paid by the Governor to this fallen officer. He was young, 29t

handſome

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1781 handſome, and on the point of nuptial cele-
Dec. bration with a beautiful lady, born in the
29th province of Andaluſia, and who during his
ſickneſs, had furniſhed him daily (by flags
of truce) with wine and other refreſhing di-
et, which this garriſon could not afford; but
the day before his departure, ſhe came half
bay over, (hearing of his dangerous ſitua-
tion) to viſit him, and take her laſt adieu!
but the Adjutant General, who went out to
receive the flag of truce, aſſured her, ſhe
could not be permitted to land until the Go-
vernor's pleaſure was known, and that the
next day he would wait upon her with his
Excellency's commands; inſtead of which,
ſhe received the lifeleſs trunk of him on whom
her every wiſh and happineſs was founded.

The enemy are diligently repairing the
30th works on the iſthmus---a ſhell fired from
Willis's, this day, fell among a party of their
workmen, about 50 or 60 in number, which
we have the greateſt reaſon to believe, did
conſiderable miſchief. The Spaniſh forts
and lines continue the cannonade and bom-
bardment. One ſoldier killed and two
wounded, this day by the exploſion of a ſhell.

31ſt A briſk fire on both ſides continues, and
the enemy keep conſtantly at work. A ſtrong
party are employed near the centre-ſtone
Guard-houſe, erecting a battery. The na-

val

val force remains quiet, nor have we been troubled with the gun and mortar boats ſome time paſt. 1781 Dec 31ſt

This year has finiſhed without giving the deciſive ſtroke, though it has been ſucceſsful on our part, and crowned our arms with glory and conqueſt. I hope the in next we ſhall be equally victorious, and convince the enemy, that Britons ſcorn controul.

I remain,

Dear Brother,

Affectionately yours.

LETTER

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LETTER XXVIII.

GIBRALTAR.

Dear BROTHER,

1782 Jan. 1st. AS all my letters are intended for your information, I ſhall endeavour as far as I am able, to give you a deſcription of this envied and battered Rock, which has excited the whole attention of Spain and France.

GIBRALTAR is in 36 degrees and 7 min. north latitude, it projects into the ſea, and is in length near a league form north to ſouth, in breadth irregular from half to 3-quarters of a mile, its head is frequently hid in the clouds. The ſummit of the rock is about 1400 feet perpendicular above the ſea. It is joined to the continent by a neck of low and deep ſand of the ſame breadth as the rock itſelf, but which widens conſiderably towards the Spaniſh lines. This iſthmus is near a league in length and with the oppoſite coaſt of Spain, forms a noble and ſafe bay 8 miles over.

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over. The hill is of ſuch an irregular form, 1782
that when you are near it you cannot view the Jan.
whole from any one part. Its head clearly 1ſt
faces the E. from thence to the Mooriſh-Caſtle it fronts the N. forward as far as the ſignalhouſe the N W it then takes a turn and continues to Europa point, due S. On account of this oblique ſituation when you approach the town from the inundation you can ſee no further of the rock than the Mooriſh Caſtle, and even in town your ſight is bounded by the old Mooriſh wall[called by ſome Charles the fifths] After you have paſſed ſouthport gate, and got upon the red ſands, the town is hid from you, and all the hill to the N. of the ſignal houſe. The back of the hill is ſcalped and inacceſſible, and this particular circumſtance forms its chief ſtrength. The head of the rock is almoſt perpendicular, and compoſed of white ſtone which is burnt for lime. The batteries facing the iſthmus are very ſtrong and ſnug, which are carried on from the ſummit of the rock, to the water's edge at the old Mole the extremity of which the Spaniards term it *una Bocca de Fugo*. The remains of the mooriſh caſtle are cloſe to the batteries, at which place is the entrance into the lines; above the lines is Willis's and the upper batteries. Under the caſtle is two batteries

near

1782 Jan 1st. near Crouchetts houſe and garden, lower down and almoſt level with the water is the Grand battery, under which is Landport. Above the ruins of the towns appears the walls of the army hoſpital from which you have a view of the remains of Bethleham barracks, formerly a Nunnery, the White Cloiſters where the commiſſioners of the navy uſed to reſide, formerly a monaſtry, and St. Francis where the Governor reſides: The building, before the enemy fired, was plain, more convenient than elegant, but pleaſantly ſituated near the bay, with a garden adjoining. The Britiſh church is adjacent to this building, but now divine ſervice is performed on the South parade, on account of the enemy's cannonade. The Spaniſh church for the performance of the Roman Catholic religion, was near the Grand parade in the Green Market, the walls of which are yet ſtanding. The inhabitants and ſoldiers repair to church by the beat of a drum. Near Southport ſtands the King's yard, Grand Store, and Victualling office, which notwithſtanding the enemy's bombardment, has not ſuſtained any conſiderable injury. Above Southport outſide of the gate, is the citadel. The garriſon is bounded by ſtrong walls, and ſeveral well executed batteries, particularly the King's, South, Montague's baſtion, and Grand

Grand battery. The King's baſtion is able to contain 1000 men, being bomb proof, and is of a noble conſtruction, planned by General Boyde, when Governor of the Garriſon. 1782 Jan. 1ſt.

The following is the ſtate of the ſtrength of the ſeveral corps now here.

Corps.	Strength.
Royal Artillery -	480
12*th* - - -	469
39*th* . . .	448
56*th* . . .	450
58*th* . . .	450
72*d* . .	811
73*d* . .	811
Hardenberg's . .	345
Reden's .	347
La Mott's . .	356
Artificier Company -	89
Total	5055

Wind

1782 Jan. 4th Wind E. This morning early the St. Phillip's Caſtle arrived here from Mahon with diſpatches, having 22 Spaniſh priſoners on board, taken by the Engliſh in a ſally made from that place. They ſay that General Murray is very cloſely beſieged, and that the forces under his command, make the moſt ſtubborn oppoſition againſt both the French and Spaniſh who lay before the caſtle.

The enemy on the iſthmus keep repairing their works, and have got a great part rebuilt. The fire on each ſide briſkly continues, but moſt ſpirited from the cloſe of the evening until the dawn of the morning, as the chief part of their labours are executed during the night ſeaſon.

8th A xebec arrived from the eaſtward this forenoon, and anchored oppoſite Sandy Bay. The working parties on the iſthmus have not done any thing particular ſince the 4th inſtant.

10th Laſt night the St. Phillip's Caſtle ſailed to the eaſtward, and a ſmall boat, for Tetuan, in order to fetch ſupplies. All quiet in the Bay: We cannot imagine the reaſon that the enemy are not ſo alert and attentive as they were.

13th Wind E. Sailed the Henry and Mercury privateers to the weſt. None of the Spaniſh cruizers

cruizers went in chace of them. The enemy threw up a branch of ſand-bag work laſt night upon the iſthmus. 1782 Jan.

This day two cutters made their appearance in the Gut. Wind N. E. The tower at Cabritta let fly a ſignal, upon which the Spaniſh ſquadron got in motion, conſiſting of a frigate, one large xebec, one ſmaller ditto, and ſeveral gun boats, who ſtood acroſs to intercept them. The gun boats got a-head and diſcharged ſeveral ſhot at them, which the cutters returned, and kept their courſe, ſtanding for the eaſtward, it being impracticable to work into the port, as the wind blew right againſt them. The Spaniſh cruizers went in chace, and are now all out of ſight. The works on the iſthmus are going forward. 16th

Antonio Juanico a Minorquen, convicted of being a ſpy, is ordered for execution on the 4th of February enſuing, 17th

The enemy fire upon us with great fury, to prevent our annoying their working parties. Several wounded this forenoon.

This being the anniverſary of Her Majeſty's birth day, the Royal ſtandard was hoiſted on the flag-ſtaff, and a ſalute of ſhot and ſhell fired on the enemy. 18th

The town and ſouthward regiments exchanged quarters this morning, to continue three 20th

1782 three months, before another exchange takes
Jan. place, unleſs circumſtances ſhould make it
neceſſary.

23d The iſthmus parties are laboriouſly employed in forwarding their works, and an inceſſant fire is kept up from the Spaniſh lines and forts, upon our works and parties on the hill, as we are repairing the breaches made, and conſtructing ſome additional fortification, to ſhelter our men; and to deſtroy, if poſſible, the enemy's approaches.

26th Pleaſant weather. The enemy appear to be buſy at Algaziras, and in the rivers. We imagine they are conſtructing additional gun boats there, to co-operate with thoſe they already have. Iſthmus working parties continue nightly to be employed.

29th Wind S. E. The two cutters chaſed to the eaſtward by the enemy on the 16th inſt. got in early this morning: They prove to be the Viper and Lively, laden with ordnance ſtores, alſo arrived the Dartmouth, Tartar cutter, laſt from Liſbon in 3 days with diſpatches. A frigate, xebec, and ſome gun boats have returned from their vain purſuit in chaſe of the Viper and Lively, mortified with having miſſed their eager prey, and anchored at their old ſtation, watching every ſail that appears in ſight. The enemy are preparing ſeveral fire ſhips at the mouth of the

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etween Algaziras and Orange Grove 1782
what purpoſe we really cannot con- Jan.
without it is for paſtime, and the re- 29th
of their naval and land forces, by
ng them that they are inclinable to
hief, though incapable of effecting
r ſhipping are all boom'd in, and
they intend to burn the clefts of the
nd ſet our ſandy beach on fire, they
er keep their preſent diſtance, nor
ingly ruſh on, where certain ruin
the inevitable conſequence. Our
are pretty healthy, conſidering the
s, dangers, and ſcarcity of freſh di-
ch at preſent prevails; but of late,
e been very much afflicted with the
veterate ſcurvy, which deprived a
any of the uſe of their limbs, by
g them ſtiff and ſwelled---The fleſh
ufferers, I aſſure you, was almoſt
nd you would pity, were you a ſpec-
view them limping to their poſt to
of a ſhare of their comrades, in op-
the foe. With every good wiſh,
me to ſubſcribe myſelf

Your loving Brother.

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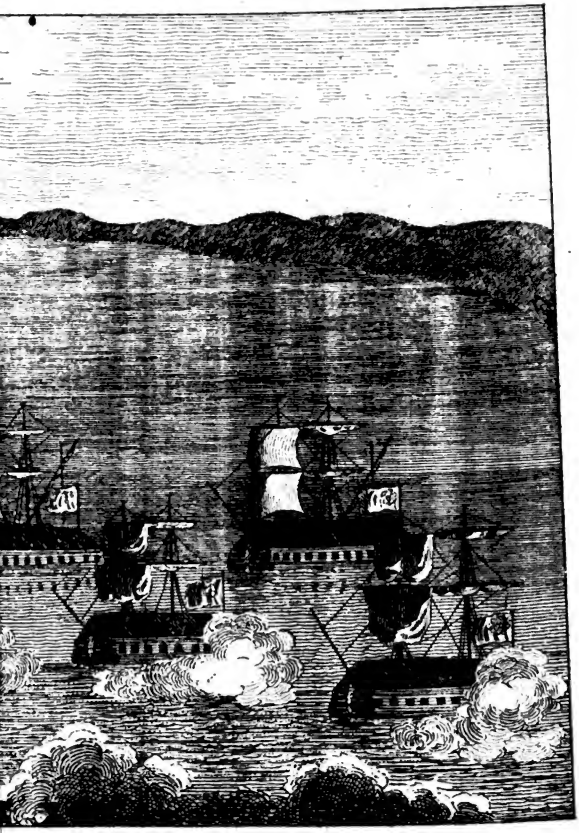

ena, attacking Gibraltar, on the 13.th of Sep.r 1782.

rivers between Alg
but for what purp
jecture, without it
creation of their
reminding them
do mischief, thos
it. Our shippin
without they inte
rocks, and set ou
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LETTER XXIX.

GIBRALTAR

Dear BROTHER,

1782 Feb. 1ſt THE beſiegers ſpurred on by hope and expectation, to work the reduction of this fortreſs, are indefatigably employed in forwarding the re-conſtruction of St. Carlos, and the adjacents--From their batteries they continue a plentiful diſcharge of ordnance, from which we now and then looſe a man. We anxiouſly long for the day of attack, as our ſituation is rather deplorable in reſpect of proviſion, and the harraſſing duties of guards, picquets, working detachments and parties, forwards the general wiſh for engagement The conſtant duty with the ſoldiery is ten and eleven days and nights up, and probably when it comes to your turn to have a night to ſleep in your tent, the enemy from the ſea line diſturbs you from that repoſe, but thank God we have not been much interrupted from that quarter of late.

Prices

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Prices of proviſion brought by the Viper and Lively, Cutters, on the 29th laſt month. 1782 Feb. 1ſt

	£.		
Common green Tea per lb.	1	1	0
Hams per lb	0	3	2
Corn'd Beef ditto	0	1	8
Port Wine per dozen	1	14	5
A Sheep	14	1	0
Cheeſe per lb	0	4	10½
Butter ditto	0	4	10½

The enemy carry on their works in a rapid manner, they laſt night erected a battery of five ambrazures on the weſt ſide of the Mill Tower. St Carlos, from what we can diſcern, from the heights of the rock, appears to have received a complete repair. Our batteries endeavour as much as poſſible, to prevent the executing of their labours on the iſthmus. 4th

Antonio Juanico, ordered for execution this day is reſpited. Arrived from the weſtward two ſmall veſſels from Portugal, laden with lemons and oranges a very refreſhing ſupply.

A ſmall boat that appeared off Cabritta point, was fired at ſeveral times from the battery at that place, but without effect, upon this a Spaniſh lugger got under ſail endeavouring to cut her off but to very little purpoſe, as the boat had nearly anchored before ſhe had got half

1781 half bay over. She proves to be a Portu-
Feb. gueze laden with fruit and oranges.

10th The enemy's cruizers have been particularly busy all this day, running in and out alternately. We imagine they have received intimation of some vessel bound for this place. They on the land side keep working & firing.

15th Arrived safe the Young Sabine, with porter, wine, and potatoes---Our men of war's boats towed her round Europa. It is confidently asserted that she has brought intelligence to the Governor of a very interesting nature, but we cannot learn the particulars. The Spanish cruizers were disappointed in missing the capture of this vessel, as all their attempts to effect it was rendered ineffectual.

16th Arrived the brig Eliza, with sundry articles on board, for the use of the garrison. The Spanish cruizers, who returned yesterday evening to Algaziras, made a signal too late, to do themselves any service; but to convince the world how valiant and daring they were, they kept cruizing in the bay with all the pomp of line of battle ships, and came very near the guns at Europa, but thought prudent to keep at a distance, lest an unfortunate shot should dispossess them of all their imaginary glory.

The Spanish works are briskly forwarded,

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the iſthmus almoſt is become a ſcene of en- 1782
chantment--the enemy certainly muſt em- Feb.
ploy a conſiderable number of men, or other- 16th
wiſe they could not make ſuch a rapid exe-
cution.

Wind N. W. This morning a ſail appeared 17th
ſtanding from the weſtward; the Spaniſh
towers let fly a ſignal of an enemy's appear-
ance--a frigate, xebec, and ſeveral gun boats,
immediately got under way, while the bat-
tery at Cabritta Point fired ſeveral rounds.
The xebec bore down, when the cutter open-
ed upon her and made her haul her wind, and
ſoon afterwards ſhe dropped a ſtern, the fri-
gate and gun boats then ſtood a croſs to in-
tercept her, which ſhe as ſpiritedly engaged,
receiving two broad-ſides from the frigate,
and ſeveral rounds of grape from the gun-
boats. After having engaged a conſide able
time, ſuch a ſuperior force ſhe had the good
fortune to get in without much damage, and
proves to be the Flying-Fiſh, Cutter, in
eight days from England, laden with ord-
nance ſtores.---Some of the enemy's boats
having been drove very near the garriſon,
the batteries at Europa diſcharged a few ſhot
at them, but plying their oars briſkly they
got off without any injury, as we could ob-
ſerve.

Wind

1782 Feb. 18th Wind S. W. Laſt night a brig from the weſtward entered the bay and obſerving the lights in the Spaniſh camp, ſteered for that place, imagining it was the town of Gibraltar. The Captain continued his courſe until he came oppoſite to Prince Orange's battery, when the officer on duty there, challenged the ſhip, who anſwered "From Corke." The captain diſcovering his error, and finding he was running under the enemy's batteries, put about, and run aground at the back of the Old Mole, where Fort Philippe and the Black Battery kept up a fire upon her. The Hibernian Captain in a jocular manner, endeavoured to apologize, for his miſconduct, by ſaying, "By J--us, he intended to run his ſhip up to his merchant's ſtore-houſe, having heard, when at Corke, that we had burnt all the Spaniſh batteries and ſpiked up their guns, and that he imagined he might anchor in any part of the bay with ſafety." This was alluding to the ſally made 27th of November, 1781, which was ſo much noiſed throughout England and Ireland, and by way of reminding us, that we had not done as much as was boaſted in the papers. She has brought a ſupply of butter, pork, and potatoes, which is intended to be landed, if poſſible, this night. Her name is the Governor Eliott, Samuel Seldon, Maſter.

This

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This morning we obſerved a battery of 1782
12 ambrazures conſtructed on the iſthmus, Feb:
and in other parts the ſand was thrown up as 20th
a cover. The enemy fired very warmly on the Governor Eliott brig, and have greatly damaged her. Part of her cargo has been landed--a briſk fire continues on both ſides.

A Portugueze ſchooner from the weſt, was taken between Tarifa and Cabritta point, and brought into Algaziras, where there is not any doubt ſhe will be condemned. The wind having ſprung up eaſterly, a Tartar arrived from Leghorn, with a cargo of wine and uſeful neceſſaries. Several gun boats alſo arrived from the eaſt, we imagine them to be the remainder that chaſed the two Cutters on the 16th of January.

Wind E. Sailed laſt night from hence, 21ſt
the Viper, Lively, and Dartmouth Tartar cutters. About an hour afterwards the Spaniſh towers were illuminated, and a number of rockets thrown up. The enemy keep hard and conſtantly at work on the iſthmus.

Wind W. This morning the ſhipping at 23d
Algaziras was dreſſed with full colours, and at noon a *feu de joye* was fired on both land and ſea, and repeated three times.

A ſhip appeared in the offing, ſtanding for this place, when a frigate and xebec made ready

1782 ready. She continued her courſe and receive
Feb. ed their fire with great intrepidity, plying
23d her guns in an heroic manner. After about an hours fire ſhe got in, and proves to be the Mercury tranſport, from Liſbon, with wine, poultry and fruit.

24th Wind W. Arrived at Algaziras from the weſtward, two xebecs, and two cutters, as a reinforcement to the Spaniſh ſquadron on that ſtation. The Spaniſh working parties are buſily employed.

25th Wind W. Arrived the St. Ann of 28 guns in 12 days from London, with ordnance ſtores. Not any particular intelligence received, except that ſhe was chaſed ſome leagues to the weſtward, and eſcaped during the night.

28th Wind E. Arrived the Indian King, from Leghorn, with timber and liquors, a briſk fire on both ſides was kept up. The enemy continue laborioufly working on the iſthmus, forwarding with all poſſible expedition, their new approaches. The tedious Siege familiarizes more and more every day, and our eager and anxious expectations no longer, impatiently excite to battle, as the foe diſcovers not any inclination, to attack our walls only by 26 pounders, and 13 inch ſhells, from which probably they hope to effect a capitulation, but while they remain at that diſtance,

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ance, all their efforts will prove but impoten- 1782
cy, and until they can level by their fire, the Feb.
heights of the hard and ſolid rock, they never 28th
will accompliſh the capture of the garriſon.
You may perceive by the following lines,
which I penned behind a traverſe at Willis's yeſ-
terday how contented we are in our ſituation.

While peaceful flocks in verdant mea-
dows graze,
Supply their wants, and ſlumber at their
eaſe;
Now ſkip and ſport, and each contented
feed,
And one by one are deſtined to bleed.
But here—'midſt hardſhips, ſoldiers ne'er
repine,
But with the pomp of war ſits down to
dine;
To feaſt upon an ounce of ſalted beef,
Which at the moſt affords but ſmall re-
lief;
No ſparkling wine to animate or cheer,
Nor pint, nor pot, of Britiſh home brew'd
beer,
But pickled beef and water is our fare;
Coop'd up like paſtur'd ſheep, within the
walls,
And one by one cut off by ſhells and balls.

1782 Feb. 28th

Here two or three together meet for mirth,
And ſeat themſelves behind a *bank of earth;
Here bread and water chearfully goes round,
And graſs, got on the rock, for ſallad found;
Sometimes brown toaſt, and vinegar ſupplies
The place of punch, and crowns our feſtive joys.
Thus happy in our ſports each other cheer,
In God we place our truſt, nor danger fear,
With heart and hand, the walls and batt'ries man,
Live hard, fight, watch, do all that Britons can!

I remain,
Dear Brother,
Affectionately yours.

* *The meaning of the expreſſion of "a bank of earth," is large caſks placed 3 deep, and filled with earth and ſtones, which is called a traverſe, and is a ſhelter from cannon balls.*

LETTER

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LETTER XXX.

GIBRALTAR.

Dear BROTHER,

THE fortune of war, and the caſuals of life are equally changeable, the victors of one day are often defeated another, and loſe thoſe laurels that were carried in triumph from the field of ſlaughter. The fate of Minorca was announced here this morning, by a flag of truce from the Orange Grove, who brought the intelligence of that fortreſs having ſurrendered to His Catholic Majeſty's forces, and that the *ſue de joye*, fired on the 23d of February, was in celebration of the conqueſt. It is not improbable but the enemy entertain lively notions of this place, and imagine that this piece of information may tend to depreſs our ſpirits, and facilitate their future operations againſt us.

1782 Mar 1ſt

We

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1782 Mar. 1st We kept up a very hot fire all the fore-noon, and ſet the enemy's works in a blaze, which they extinguiſhed ſhortly afterwards.

2d This morning our batteries directed their fire upon the enemy's advanced works on the iſthmus, when a heavy and inceſſant cannonade was ſpiritedly maintained between the enemy and the garriſon, 'till 9 o'clock, during which time, we had the fortune to ſet their works on fire again. The foe manifeſted a valour, and in an intrepid manner, jumped upon the glacis, pouring baſkets of ſand upon the flames, when after much difficulty and danger they got it put out.

4th Wind E. Laſt night the Flying-Fiſh cutter, ſailed to the weſtward with diſpatches. The enemy keep advancing their approaches towards the garriſon. The cannonade but ſlack theſe two days.

5th Arrived Patron Pratts from Algiers, with ſheep and wine, the former ſells at a moſt enormous and exorbitant price. The enemy's parties on the iſthmus work exceſſively hard, and bring forward their approaches with diſpatch--they have almoſt reached into our late gardens.

Garriſon orders.

"*The town guards to mount at half paſt* 6, *and the South guards at* 7 *o'clock, till further orders.*"

The

The enemy having been very remiss in cannonading the town, it is imagined was the occasion of the Governor altering the hour of relieving the guards. Mar. 6th

The enemy keep working and moderately firing by which Lieut. Cuppage of the Royal Artillery was this day wounded--all quiet on the sea side. 9th

Garrison orders.

"*Rations of Provision from* 11*th March*, 1782.

"*Bread* 7*lb beef* 2*lb & half, pork* 1*lb. butter* 6 *oz cheese* 8 *oz. pease* 3 *pints, oatmeal* 2 *pints wheat* 2 *pints & quarter, in lieu of* 1 *pint of pease and one of oatmeal, vinegar a quarter of a pint. No alteration in the ration of the hospitals.*"

The enemy indicate fresh preparation for the ensuing storm, several parties being employed this morning, clearing ground for a reinforcement of troops--a number of tents are already pitched. A xebec which came near the garrison had several rounds fired at her, which compelled her to sheer off. We discharged a number of carcasses upon the enemy's isthmus works, with an intent to burn them, but did not meet with the completion of our wishes. 10th

The

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1782 Mar. 16th The enemy work moſt aſſidiouſly, and have raiſed a very high and well-planned breaſt-work, ſuppoſed by our Engineers and Artilleriſts to be intended for a Mortar battery.

This day arrived at Algaziras, a frigate from the weſtward, but not any ſalute was given,

The enemy's fire theſe three days, has been particularly ſpirited, by which we have had ſome few wounded, among whom is Lieut. White of the 56th regiment. Our batteries are now bravely playing upon the foe.

17th Southerly wind. Two frigates having come within the reach of our prams, anchored off New Mole--they began a well directed and furious fire upon them. One of the frigates, 'twas obſerved, received ſeveral ſhot.

18th Our fiſhing boats were drove out of the bay this morning by a xebec, who kept a gentle fall, until by her repeated firings, ſhe made them all retreat to the ſhore. The inhumanity of this act, is greater to be conceived than expreſſed. Few inſtances are to be found that bears any ſimilitude to ſuch an unprecedented proceeding. The Spaniards are forwarding their works, and diſcharging their ordnance upon us.

The

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The bridge at Landport is ordered to be pulled down, and the communication to that poſt will be through the Sallyport in the ditch. where there is to be a temporary ſtage made, for the purpoſe of detachments paſſing and repaſſing from the covered way, and out-guards, Alſo one of the ſlopes by which the guards, and centinels now aſcends to their poſts, is alſo to be levelled. An encampment was began this morning on the weſt of the Orange Grove. We expect the Siege will quickly come to an iſſue from the preparations, making by the foe. 1782 Mar. 19th

Laſt night about eleven o'clock, a mill, on Windmill hill, conſtructed for the purpoſe of grinding the wheat ſent over from England, by ſome means took fire, and was conſumed. The enemy are very buſy with ſome ſhipping, which is imagined are intended for *fire floats*. 22d

Wind W. Laſt night arrived the Vernon ſtore ſhip, with materials for gun boats, what we have long wiſhed for. The Succeſs frigate eſcorted her to *lat.* 36. when ſhe left her and returned to England. The Succeſs, on her paſſage took the St. Catalina, a Spaniſh frigate, who afterwards was burnt on the appearance of the Cerberus and Apollo frigates, and 4 tranſports, that came in alſo during the night, having on board the 97th Regiment, as a reinforcement to the garriſon.

Three

1782 Mar. Three very large ſhips and four xebecs, arrived at Algaziras, imagined to be laden with ſtores and proviſion.

25th This forenoon our flag of truce carried to Orange Grove, ſome officers and men, put on board the Vernon, belonging to the St. Catalina frigate. The enemy continue their uſual working parties From ten o'clock laſt night, till break this morning, a briſk fire was maintained with determined reſolution, between Forts Barbary, Phillippe, and the batteries on the heights of the hill.

30th The enemy's ſhips and forts fired ſeveral rounds alternately. It is ſuppoſed the rejoicing is (on account of this being Paſſion-ſaturday) in celebration of our Saviour's reſurrection. The Spaniſh working parties have not done any quantity work of to day.

31ſt This morning the batteries at Willis's and Montague's Baſtion, opened with martial rage upon the iſthmus works, Wind N. W. a very freſh breeze. Shot and ſhells were inceſſantly diſcharged, when one of the latter having penetrated into the facines, immediately ſet that part in a flame, which continued burning until about 30 yards was conſumed. The flames ſpread in a rapid manner and the enemy did all they could to prevent the progreſs of the fire, nor could they extinguiſh it by any means, but was under the

the neceſſity of cutting an opening, as the only remedy to ſecure their approaches from being again deſtroyed. 1782 Mar. 31ſt

The troops in the camp of Santa Roque, came out of their tents to view the ſpirited action, while only the flaſh of guns, and exploding ſhells were to be ſeen; the iſthmus, and northermoſt part of the rock being hid with the clouds of ſmoke.

Yours, &c.

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LETTER XXXI.

" Who like the Cur barks at the crowd that paſſes?"

GIBRALTAR.

Dear BROTHER,

1782 SUCH is the diſpoſition of our inveterate
Apr. and malignant foes, every ſhip, ſettee,
1ſt or bark that appears, immediately a gun is diſcharged, and a cruizer ſent out to interrogate, " From whence come ye, or Where are ye bound?" A Swediſh veſſel was brought into Algaziras yeſterday evening for not bringing too, upon a gun being fired from a double galley off the Point.

Arrived

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Arrived a veſſel from Portugal with nine- 1782
ty ſheep, during the courſe of the night. Apr.

This morning a ſoldier deſerted from 11t
Landport Guard, and received the fire of muſquetry of all the centinels, but without effect. The Spaniſh working parties are diligently employed.

Laſt night a Spaniſh deſerter came in, and 2d
reports that the ſoldier that deſerted yeſterday, was wounded by our fire, and died in the greateſt agony, in the Mill battery, (or St. Carlos.) This forenoon a great many tents was pitched eaſt ſide of the Horſe barracks, and ſome ſquadrons of infantry marched in.

The encampment weſt of the Orange 9th
Grove is taken poſſeſſion of by troops; but they do not appear to be very numerous, or perhaps they are tired with their march over the mountains, and keep their tents as a relaxation from their fatigue. The enemy cannonade the garriſon exceſſively warm, three men and a boy wounded at Willis's.

The encampment pitched yeſterday is 10th
hourly increaſing in the number of tents, but not any conſiderable body of troops appear. The enemy fired very hot this morning, and a ſhell which fell in Landport Ditch, juſt as the new guard came to relieve the old one, killed Lieut. Whitham, of the 12th Regiment,

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1782 ment, wounded his ſervant who was on the
Apr. right of the guard, and blew the Drummers
10th drum in pieces. He was an amiable officer,
and well reſpected, the loſs of him is much
regretted by all ranks in the garriſon.

Six lug ſail boats arrived from the weſt-
ward, from their form and conſtruction we
apprehend they are intended for landing of
troops. Every thing now indicates a ſpeedy
and vigourous aſſault. Our enemies are
ſeemingly prepared for immediate battle,
their iſthmus works being almoſt completed.

11th Wind W. Arrived a boat from Portugal
with goats, fowls, &c. The patron brings
intelligence that ſhips and floating batteries
are fitting up in the port of Cadiz, lined with
Cork and Oakum, whoſe ſtrength are to turn
a cannon ball, and that when Duke de Cril-
lon arrives with his conquering, valiant,
and ſucceſsful troops from the glorious ex-
pedition at Minorca, he is to take the com-
mand of the forces, and head the army in
their attack upon this place. He ſays, that
from the accounts received in Portugal, the
people of Spain, look upon the Duke's con-
duct with admiration, and expect that thoſe
that join him will be invulnerable.

15th Arrived a large cutter at Algaziras, from
the weſt. The enemy have brought for-
ward

ward their approaches conſiderably towards the garriſon. A general diſcharge of ordnance prevails. 1782 Apr.

Wind S. W. Two large xebecs arrived this forenoon on the oppoſite ſide, and ſeveral ſmall ſettees, all from the weſtward. 16th

The enemy's force now conſiſts of

3 frigates 4 large xebecs 1 cutter 1 bomb ketch	At Algaziras.
1 large xebec 1 cutter 1 luggar 1 bomb ketch	At Orange Grove.
1 large xebec 1 ſmall do. 1 ſloop of war	At Cabritta.
15 gun boats 8 mortar boats 10 or 12 fire ſhips	In the rivers.

Beſide what ſhipping they have at Ceuta, and cruizing to the eaſtward.

Landport

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1782 Landport bridge is taken down, and it is
Apr. reported that both the ſlopes are to be level-
16th led, and only a timber aſcent made, that in caſe of any emergence may be ſet on fire, to prevent the enemy's entrance into the ditch under Grand Battery.

Our working parties are employed in erecting ſplinter-proofs upon the batteries on the hill, as a cover from the bomb ſhells when they explode in the air, which the Spaniards have practiſed of late.

20th Wind N. W. This morning upon a ſhip being diſcovered by the enemy in the offing, they hoiſted a ſignal on the tower at Cabritta, which not being anſwered, a xebec, and ſloop that lay at the Point, ſlipped out, and bore down under a preſſure of ſail.---- The xebec having got a-head, fired a broadſide at her, which was directly returned by the ſhip; the ſloop now came up, and fired a few guns, notwithſtanding which, ſhe continued her courſe, and got ſafe in, without any loſs. She proves to be the Antigallican ſtore-ſhip, in eight days from Falmouth. The enemy, appearantly, are not ſo attentively employed on the iſthmus as formerly.

21ſt The regiments in the town and ſouthward, exchanged quarters this forenoon.

Very

Very little work done by the enemy--- 1782
The gun boats brought over by the Vernon, Apr.
are getting in great forwardneſs in the New 21ſt
Mole yard.

Several parties employed daily in bring- 22d
ing faſcines into the Spaniſh camp. We
ſuppoſe that the want of theſe materials has
been the occaſion of their ceaſing from
work theſe three days. Forts Barbary and
Phillippe, the Black Battery and lines, fired
this afternoon, minute guns, with ſhot up-
on the Garriſon.

This forenoon an experimental tryal was 24th
made with one of the gun boats, mounted
with an 18 pounder. The firſt and ſecond
ſhot fired horizontally recouched three or
four times; the third had a degree of ele-
vation, and went a diſtance in the bay. The
Naval Commander promiſes great ſucceſs
from them, when the twelve is finiſhed.
All hands buſy at work upon them.

This morning early a deſerter from the 25th
Volunteers of Argon came in, and confirms
a former account of ſhips being preparing
for the purpoſe of attacking this garriſon,
lined with cork and junk to prevent the pe-
netration of our ſhot. A few working par-
ties again appear on the iſthmus, but their
labours is executed under cover.

This

1782 Apr. 27th This day one of our long boats going from Ragged Staff to the New Mole with iron, ſprung a plank and went to the bottom, unfortunately a man and a boy was drowned.

28th Wind W. S W. This morning two ſhips brig rigged, appeared in the Gut, with their heads ſtanding to the eaſt---The Spaniſh towers made a ſignal of an enemy being at hand, upon which two xebecs, and 8 gunboats went out, in order to ſecure them, but were unexpectedly diſappointed, they proving to belong to the French. The rapidity of the current, and the wind having ſhifted to the N. W. the xebecs and gunboats drove to the eaſtward.

30th The enemy's works appear to be executed according to their wiſhes, for notwithſtanding we only now and then diſcharge a few rounds of ſhot and ſhells, they have not taken the opportunity of doing any work. In the Spaniſh camp, a numerous army are ſeen--the whole common at the foot of Santa Roque, is become a town and place of habitation, where a grand diſplay of ſlaughtering inſtruments are exhibited, and the moſt renowned engineers, experienced artilleriſts, and approved ſoldiers and ſeamen, are bent upon our extirpation from this heart-galling rock That their views and intentions may be fruſtrated, is the ſincere and hearty wiſh of

Your affectionate Brother.

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LETTER XXXII.

GIBRALTAR.

Dear BROTHER,

EVERY opportunity that offers of writing to you, I readily embrace, and find an infinite ſatisfaction in the employ. The reciprocal affection that has ſo long ſubſiſted between us, pleaſingly excites the labour of my pen, and conſcious that your boſom feels for my abſence and ſituation, I ſhould conſider myſelf unpardonable in any omiſſion. 1782 May 3d

The enemy continue the Siege, and are getting in forwardneſs the moſt ſtudious preparations for an attack. It is beyond diſpute that the contention will ſhortly be finally adjuſted.

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1782 Garriſon orders.

May 3d "*Rations of proviſion from 6th May, 1782,*
"*7lb Bread, 2 lb, and half beef, 1lb pork, 6 ounces of butter, quarter pint of oil, 3 pints of peaſe, 2 pints of oatmeal, 2 pints and quarter wheat, 1 pint and quarter vinegar.*
"Hoſpital *7lb Bread, 2lb and half beef, 1lb pork, 6 ounces of butter, quarter pint of oil, 6 pints of oatmeal, half-pint of rice, half-pound raiſins.*"

8th Laſt night Wind E. Sailed the Cerberus and Apollo frigates. St. Ann, Vernon. Mercury, and Antigallican ſtoreſhips, the Betſey, Thompſon, Loyal Briton, and Valiant tranſports, at which time two Spaniſh frigates and three xebecs were cruizing in the gut. They had not been long under ſail, when rockets were thrown up at Algaziras, and anſwered at Cabritta Point. About an hour after a cannonading was heard in the gut, and continued for ſome time tolerably briſk; and this morning we had the mortification to view the enemy, returning with the three laſt named tranſports, being the only defenceleſs veſſels that ſailed from hence. Their ſails were very much torn, and it is ſuppoſed the enemy alone directed their fire upon them, not liking to attack the ſtore-ſhips, they

they having a formidable appearance in the night. Thus victorious they entered the bay in triumph, and conducted their prizes (manned only with about 21 men) to the port of Algaziras, there to recount the dangers of the battle, and to regale themselves with the spoil. 1782 May 8th

Wind W. S. W. This forenoon arrived from the westward, one line of battle ship, convoying eight large store-ships or Indiamen. From the appearance of their rigging and sides, which is dry and shabby, and having but a few hands on board, we cannot imagine from what part they have arrived, or what occasion brought them in here. All hands busy about the Spanish camp. 9th

Wind S. E. Arrived a Portugueze settee, from Tetuan, with about 30,000 oranges, and a few pipes of oil. She was cleared out for Cadiz, but smuggled herself in here, where they will find a good market for their cargo.---Oranges are sold for a rial each, about 4d. 3-farthings sterling. 10th

The eight large ships that arrived over the way the 9th inst. are hauled close to the shore and are unrigging, and those that arrived on the 24th March have proceeded to the Orange Grove. It is currently reported that they are lined with cork, and are to be converted 13th

1782 converted into batteries, but moſt people
May think that they are more fit for fire-wood,
than attacking a fortreſs.

15th The ſtore-ſhips at Algaziras are quite unrigged, and a great many hands employed upon them clearing their decks. The land fire is maintained with ſpirit, but very little work ſeemingly going forward on the iſthmus.

20th Laſt night three ſoldiers in attempting to deſert from the heights of the rock, fell from a precipice, and were found dead under the ſugar-loaf, lying near each other. They had procured a rope and faſtened it to a cleft of the rock, but it was not of a ſufficient length to reach to the bottom.

22d Arrived a xebec and a galley, from the weſtward, at Algaziras. The enemy are employed upon two of the ſtore-ſhips cutting their ſides down.

25th The enemy continue working on the two ſtore ſhips at Algaziras, and appear to be thick'ning with pieces of timber and other materials, their larboard ſides—ſeveral ports have been already cut: From this it is evident they are intended for floating batteries. Wind E. The other ſtore ſhips that lay at the Orange Grove, ſailed from thence to the weſtward, having diſcharged their lading,

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ding, which is ſuppoſed to be ordnance ſtores. 1782 May

Arrived the St. George xebec, with a ſmall ſupply from Leghorn, having on board 12 Corſicans, including one officer, who have voluntarily come to offer their ſervice in the defence of this place. They mention that ſeveral more are preparing to embark on the ſame expedition. 25th

Arrived the John Tartan, from Leghorn, with a ſupply of wine and oil. She brings intelligence that we may be aſſured of a vigorous attack, as ſoon as the Spaniſh ſhips are ready, which will be made ſo ſtrong, and of ſuch a nature, that they will neither burn nor batter. 26th

The Spaniſh Hoſpital laſt night took fire, and is entirely conſumed.

Wind S. E. Yeſterday evening near one hundred ſail of tranſports, and a bomb-ketch, arrived and anchored between Algaziras and Orange Grove, and this morning we perceived they were very full of men, which are ſuppoſed to be troops. 27th

A conſiderable body of troops were landed from the tranſports this forenoon, and marched into the Spaniſh camp. The enemy have hauled two tranſports in, and have began unrigging them. The two large 28th

ſhips

1782 ſhips that the enemy have been working at,
May have each of them 14 or 15 port-holes cut in their larboard ſides.

28th A flag of truce was received from Spain, but her meſſage is meer conjecture with the public. Some ſay, ſhe has brought a demand from the Spaniſh General, for the ſurrendering of the Fortreſs; but this, I am confident, never will be done, while we have an ounce of bread, and a round of ammunition.

30th Garriſon Orders.

"*Rations of proviſion from 3d June, 1782.*

"*7lb Bread, 2 pounds and half beef, 1lb of pork, 6 ounces of butter, quarter of a pint of oil, 2 pints of peaſe, 2 pints of oatmeal, quarter pint of vinegar.*

"*Hoſpital as laſt month.*"

An Engliſh Tartan was taken to the eaſtward and towed by the enemy into Algaziras, with her colours reverſed. It is aſſerted that the veſſel is the one that Patron Pratt's ſailed from this port ſome time paſt to Algiers for ſupplies.

Our 12 gun boats in New Mole yard are nearly finiſhed; ſeveral are already in the water, and lye very ſnug--We are very anxious

ious to make tryal of them with the enemy. 1782
A boat went out this day under a flag of May
truce into the bay, with the Governor's an- 30th
ſwer to theirs, received the 28th inſt.

The ſhips at Algaziras are getting pretty forward; a number of hands are employed upon them, but moſt of the garriſon are of opinion from their conſtruction, that they will be found of very little uſe when they attack our walls, as they never will be able to tow them near enough to do any material execution, for ſhould they daringly come on, their boats will be inevitably cut off by grape ſhot from the garriſon.

We ſhall have pretty ſport ſoon--I hope to ſurvive to ſend you an account of the particulars, wherein a victorious repulſe, I truſt, will be found; and probably before you receive this letter, the battle will have taken place and the conteſt be decided.

With a heart glowing with zeal for the honor of my King, the welfare of Britain, and her Dependencies, permit me to conclude, with the moſt brotherly love and eſteem,

Yours, &c.

LETTER

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LETTER XXXIII.

GIBRALTAR.

Dear BROTHER,

1782 June 1st THE enemy labour conſtantly at equipping the ſtore-ſhips for ſervice--from the lights obſerved at Algaziras laſt night, we imagine they were buſy at work---the maſts of moſt of them are taken out.

This morning died here, Brigadier General Stanton, of the 97th regiment.

3d Wind E. This day a convoy of near fifty ſail of different ſizes, arrived from the eaſtward at Algaziras, with ſtores and proviſion for the uſe of their navy and army. The cannonade continues pretty briſk on both ſides, but we have had only a few wounded.

Garriſon

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Garriſon orders. 1782

"*The Royal Standard to be hoiſted to-morrow——The Governor deſires to meet all the Officers not on duty, on their reſpective parades, at guard mounting to-morrow, to congratulate with them on the anniverſary of His Majeſty's birth-day.* June 3d

"*Such ordnance to be fired at the enemy's works, as ſhall be ordered by the Commanding Officer of the Royal Artillery, beginning at one o'clock.*

The Royal ſtandard was hoiſted this morning on the flag-ſtaff in town, and on board the Brilliant in New Mole—at one o'clock the Northernmoſt batteries fired 44 rounds of ſhot and ſhells upon the enemy's forts and works, in honor of His Majeſty's birth-day. The ſhipping in the New Mole, and our 12 gun boats arranged in a line from the Tanks to the Pier of the New Mole Head, alſo performed a ſalute, and gave three cheers. The enemy maintained a briſk fire the whole day. The floating-batteries (or cork-ſhips) at Algaziras, are forwarding with all poſſible diligence. 4th

A hot fire from the land batteries, upon our works and parties, which is as ſpiritedly returned from our heights. 6th

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1782 June 6th. Captain Wideburg, of Reden's regiment of Hanoverians, was wounded this day.

The Spaniards have a great many hands employed upon ſeven ſhips at Algeziras; moſt of them have ports cut in their ſides, but none of them appear to be finiſhed.

7th. This forenoon our Artillery had ſome *red hot ſhot* experimental practice, at a veſſel wrecked off Prince Orange's battery, which ſucceeded pretty well. An unfortunate accident happened by a gun unexpectingly going off, which killed the gunner in the embrazure, and wounded three other men. A conſtant fire from the Rock Gun, upon the enemy's works on the iſthmus.

Garriſon Orders.

"*One quarter and half of a pint of vinegar to be iſſued to every ration, till further orders.*

The ſurgeons of the different corps are of opinion, that this will be a great preventative in the ſad effects of the ſcurvy.

10th. The men employed upon the ſeven floating batteries, work with the greateſt aſſiduity, but as yet we cannot form any judgment of their utility or conſtruction.

Early this morning the Spaniſh gun and mortar boats made an excurſion in the bay, and

and discharged their ordnance upon the gar- 1782
rison.--They fired very warm for an hour and June
three quarters, during which time we had 10th
several men wounded. A soldier is missing,
supposed to have desected.

This forenoon a 13 inch shell fired from 11th
the enemy's works, fell upon a Magazine on
Princess Ann's battery, where there was ma-
ny men at work and on duty; it forced its
way through the splinter-proof which cover-
ed the magazine door, burst it open, and in
the explosion blew up the magazine. Our
loss on this occasion is as follows, viz. 15 men
killed, and 21 wounded, some of them in a
dangerous way. Scarce had the explosion
taken place, when the enemy began a can-
nonnade and bombardment, from every bat-
tery they had any ordnance mounted in,
particularly directed to the place where the
accident had happened: The garrison kept
pouring upon them heavy discharges of shot
and shells, which they sustained with the
firmest resolution.

The man missing the 10th inst. was taken
this day by a party of men at the back of the
rock, and sent on board the *Provost ship*,
a place of safe confinement, as we have not
a garrison goal.

The enemy labour excessive hard at their 13th
cork ships; their whole invention seems to
be

1782 June 13th be engaged in their equipment. It is supposed that in five or six weeks they will be completed and ready for action, but the enemy will never be able to get them off, whenever they cast anchor against the walls, so that if they are not successful in taking the place, they will be commpelled to abandom them to our cannonade.

This day a soldier deserted from a guard at Landport--the centinels fired at him, but he made his escape

14th Wind E A French frigate convoying a number of small craft, arrived on the enemy's side from the eastward. About two this afternoon a Spanish xebec was becalmed near the garrison. The Southward batteries, and Prams at New Mole Head fired upon her, and Captain Curtis of the Brilliant, with 12 gun boats rowed out towards the xebec. She discovering her dangerous situation, fired a gun, as a signal for assistance, while our 12 gun boats kept constantly raking her. The enemy sent over several small cruizers to her relief, when unluckily a breeze sprang up, and they towed her out of the reach of our guns. Had it continued a calm much longer, she must have been under the necessity of striking.

15th The xebec that we engaged yesterday, is observed to be upon her keel, repairing the damages she received from our fire.

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Wind E. A ſettee from the eaſtward was carried into Algaziras under Engliſh colours by a Spaniſh cruizer; in all probability ſhe was taken with cattle for the garriſon, which is much wanting and ſells at a great price, beef 4s 10½d per lb. and mutton 5s. and 5s. 2d. you may judge the ſcarcity when a bullock before he is killed, almoſt every pound of him is purchaſed, and the liver ſold for 1s. 3d. per pound at the ſlaughter-houſe door, where a crowd of women and children moſtly are fighting for the ſame; it being termed by us, a dainty diſh when fryed. A bullock's head, without a tongue, has been ſold for ſeven dollars and a half, which is according to the exchange of money 1l. 3s. 4½d. and the tongue for 8s. 1½d.

1782 June 17th

Garriſon Orders.

"*When the advanced gun boats diſcover the approach of the enemy's gun boats, they will fire a gun, and burn ſeveral falſe fires. If they ſhould obſerve the approach of boats, which they ſuppoſe to contain troops, they will fire a gun, and throw up ſeveral rockets, when the men of war will* beat to arms, *and if the drummers of the Guards and Garriſon have not* beat to arms *before, they will immediately take it up from the frigates.*"

Yeſterday

1782 Yeſterday evening Wind W. a ſhip of the
June line, 3 large ſtore ſhips, and 8 other veſſels
18th arrived at Algaziras from the weſtward. It is the general opinion of the garriſon that the three large ſhips are for the purpoſe of making floating batteries, to co-operate with thoſe now preparing over the way, as they are hauled in under the land.

This afternoon Wind S E. three frigates and between 70 and 80 tranſports under French colours, with troops on board arrived and anchored on the enemy's ſide. We conjecture they have brought a reinforcement of near 6000 men. Our prams fired ſeveral ſhot at four of the enemy's gun boats that came within reach of the guns--a ſhot went through the ſail of the head-moſt when they made off.

20th The troops arrived in the French tranſports have began diſembarking, ſeveral boats already landed at the pier of the Orange Grove. A veſſel with a Spaniſh enſign above the Engliſh was carried into Algaziras. The enemy are buſy in unrigging the three laſt ſtore ſhips, and cutting down their ſides. The fire from the land ſide continues.

21ſt A boat came over laſt night from Algaziras with two men, taken in the ſettee on the the 17th, they cut the boat adrift and made their eſcape. They report that the Spaniards are in high

high ſpirits, and good expectation, from ten 1782
cork ſhips which are getting ready with all June
poſſible expedition whoſe ſtrength and form 21ſt
will be impregnable both againſt ſhot and
ſhells. We ſhall of courſe find ſtubborn
work with them.

The French troops finiſhed landing this
day, and are encamped on the left of the
Spaniſh army, they take up a conſiderable a
tract of ground. From accounts received the
enemy's land forces are now 30,000 ſtrong.

The Spaniards are very buſy on their ten 22d
cork ſhips, and have cut down the ſides of
the three latter arrived. The land batteries
have not diſcharged many ſhot this day. from
which we imagine they are contemplating
other works.

The enemy have been ſilent theſe three 24th
days paſt, every thing on the iſthmus wears
a different appearance. It is imagined that a
new arrangement of affairs has taken place,
and that Duke de Crillon, ſucceds General
Alvarez in command. The enemy are ſtill
employed on the floating batteries.

All quiet on the iſthmus excepting now 27th
and then a ſhot for diverſion, which ſome-
times we return and ſometimes not. Our
Governor has taken this opportunity of re-
pairing and ſtrengthening the works and bat-
teries.

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1782 teries. Several ſtrong working parties em-
June ployed to the northward.

29th Little fire from the enemy. The floating batteries are forwarded with incredible expedition. The enemy have began forming ſomething over the deck of one of them, intended we ſuppoſe for a ſplinter proof, time will manifeſt the uſe of it.

I remain,

Dear Brother,

Affectionately yours.

LETTER

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LETTER XXXIV.

GIBRALTAR

Dear BROTHER,

THE enemy on the land ſide, obſerve a great tranquility, but for what reaſon we cannot determine, unleſs they are reſerving their ammunition for the day of attack. On our part we are well ſatisfied, as it affords us the opportunity of repairing the works that were ſhattered and damaged. This morning we fired 5 or 6 ſhells upon the enemy's works, which they anſwered with one ſhot. 1782 July 1ſt

The conſtruction of the cover of one of the floating batteries, is much reſembling the roof of a houſe; but at the diſtance they now are, I cannot pretend to give an exact deſcription: The general opinion of the garriſon is, that the enemy will find a great difficulty to bring them on, as they

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1782 July muſt be very heavy from the quantity of timber. The regiments in the garriſon have been practiſing ſeveral days firing ball from the line wall at a target in the ſea.

3d One wing of the Spaniſh army ſtruck their tents this morning, and removed to another part of the common, for convenience. Some few ſhot and ſhells from the enemy.

6th The floating batteries are not yet compleate, they have began roofing a ſecond, ſo that we ſuppoſe they will be all roofed. The enemy keep up a moderate cannonade.

Garriſon orders

"*The men will receive 6 ounces of raiſins or currants, in lieu of a quarter of a pint of oil, till further orders.*"

7th Wind W. Early this morning a brig from the weſtward was diſcovered in the offing—The Spaniſh towers hung out the ſignal of an enemy, when a xebec and four gun boats puſhed out—the boats ſoon came up with her, and began a fire, which ſhe returned and kept them off—the xebec then bore down and boarded her manfully, and ſhortly after we obſerved a Spaniſh enſign hoiſted above the Engliſh. She was conducted in triumph

triumph to Algaziras. We feel a ſenſible uneaſineſs in not having a force ſufficient to protect any veſſel ſtanding for the bay. It muſt be very diſtreſſing after a veſſel has eſcaped croſſing the ſea, to be taken in ſight of their deſtined port, and ſometimes almoſt within the reach of the garriſon guns. 1782 July 7th

This afternoon arrived from the weſtward, and anchored at Cabritta, a frigate and a xebec. We expect ſome other veſſel is in ſight of the coaſt.

The enemy continue working on the cork ſhips, roofing them over, which makes them have a very odd appearance. A ſerjeant is miſſing, ſuppoſed to have deſerted. 10th

This afternoon four men belonging to one of the Prams, went in a boat to the enemy. We fired at them, but too late to prevent their eſcape. The ſerjeant miſſing on the 10th, was found at the back of the rock, half way down, but for want of a rope could not get any further. 11th

This morning a ſoldier deſerted from Queen's Lines Guard. A Prophet is taken up, and ſent on board the *Provoſt ſhip*. Like Jonah warning the city of Ninneveh, ſo he publicly avowed that within ſix weeks, ſix days, and ſix hours from laſt ſaturday at 12 o'clock, the garriſon would be taken, 13th

and

1782 and the Governor killed. He is a ſoldier
July belonging to the 73d regiment, and at the expiration of the time there, is not any doubt but he will ſuffer for his folly.

14th This morning came in a deſerter from Spain: He ſays that there is 44 batallions in camp; that Duke de Crillon has made a thorough ſurvey of all the works, and gone to Madrid to report to His Catholick Majeſty. The enemy have not completed any of the floating batteries---they have began this morning, forming a boom acroſs the harbour at Algaziras, for the protection of their ſhipping---We flatter ourſelves that they are apprehenſive of the arrival of our fleet.

16th Wind W. The French convoy ſailed to the eaſtward, and the men of war are in readineſs to weigh. The boom at Algaziras is lengthening conſiderably, From theſe circumſtances we conjecture that we ſhall ſhortly find relief. The floating batteries come on apace.

17th The boom is lengthened about 2000 yards and covers all the floating batteries. The Spaniſh cruizers are very alert, and neither truſt to colours or ſignals. The enemy have began a battery near Tarifa, (from the account the deſerter gives that came in on the 14th) and that 600 men are detached for that purpoſe. Wind

Wind E. Six large boats arrived from the eaſtward at Algaziras---they appear to be new, and of the conſtruction of their gun boats. The enemy keep working day and night at the floating batteries; the roof of one is quite finiſhed, and is much like the top of a houſe, having a gradual aſcent from head and ſtern. Three mortar boats came out of the river, and have gone to the Orange Grove. On the land ſide, nothing new appears, and what work is done by the enemy is within the batteries. A briſk fire from their forts. 1782 July 18th

The boom at Algaziras is extended the length of the town, and all the cruizers are inſide; the bomb ketch which lay at the Orange Grove weighed anchor, and has taken her ſtation at the ſame place. The old paſtime of ſhot and ſhells cannot be forgot, we keep playing away manfully. A ſailor who happened to be in town when a ſhell burſt over his head, exclaimed with the uſual oath, for which they are ſo much diſtinguiſhed, "D--n me, but the Spaniards have got a battery in the air." 19th

All hands buſy at work on the oppoſite ſhore---three of the floating batteries are roofed over. The regiments exchanged quarters this day. 21ſt

Wind

1782 July 23d Wind W. A large xebec arrived and anchored at Algaziras. The enemy have nearly roofed another of the floating batteries, and the three laſt that were taken in hand, are in great forwardneſs.

24th The ſerjeant taken at the back of the rock on the 11th, was executed for the ſame, and died with penitence becoming his unhappy ſituation

25th Wind ſtrong E. Arrived the St. Phillip's Caſtle, and General Murray ſloop of war, from Leghorn—they have brought proviſion for the garriſon, with 5 officers and 75 Corſicans. They bring the agreeable intelligence of Admiral Rodney having defeated the French, and taken the Ville de Paris of 110 guns, with four other line of battle ſhips. Our Governor ordered a ſalvo from the batteries, and a *feu de joye* to be fired, which you will perceive by the

Garriſon Orders.

"Parole RODNEY. *A* feu de joye *this day to celebrate the victory gained by His Majeſty's fleet under the command of Sir George Rodney, over the French fleet in the Weſt Indies. All the ordnance from the rock gun to Princeſs Carolina's incluſive to be fired at one o'clock, beginning at the rock gun ſhoted.*

At

At six in the evening the regiments will take post on the line wall, in the following order, drawn up two deep. 1782 July 25th

"*The 72d regiment right to the Prince Hesse's battery; 12th join the left of 72d; the two town companies of artillery on the King's bastion; the 39th on the left of the 12th; Lieut. General Reden's left of 39th; Major General La Mott's left of Reden's; 73d right at ragged staff; 56th on the left of 73d; the three South companies of Royal Artillery in the New Mole Fort. Two rockets will be thrown up on the right, as a signal to begin the first round--two from the left, when the fire returns from thence for the second round, and two more from the right for the third round. Three cheers when the firing is finished, to begin on the right, and pass along in the same manner as the firing did.*"

The shipping and gun boats fired and cheered at one o'clock, and the greatest spirit and satisfactory joy conducted the whole.

I hope that this success will contribute to distress and dispirit our foes, who vaunting of their power, bluster and threaten, and claim victory as their own. These inpregnable floating batteries will shortly be tryed. and though the Spanish gazettes boast of unborn atchievments,

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1782 atchievements, yet there is not the leaſt doubt
July but our red hot pills will effectually anſwer
25th our purpoſe. They muſt be of an amazing conſtruction if blazing twenty fours, and thirty twos will not burn them. Of this the day of tryal will decide.

This being St. James's Day, the enemy's ſhips were dreſſed and ſaluted three times.—The enemy rooſed over another floating battery.

26th Wind W. Arrived a ſmall ſettee from Portugal with wine and fruit She has brought a confirmation of the glorious defeat of the French. The enemy endeavoured to take her but was too late in getting out.

30th The floating batteries come rapidly on, another of them is rooſed over. The foe devotes their whole time and ſtudy to get them finiſhed and work day and night. On our part as we are convinced they are intended to attack the place, we as anxiouſly wiſh for their ſpeedy equipment; to give the deciſive ſtroke, and to determine whether Britannia, or Gaul and Iberia ſhall be victorious. It will be hot and ſtubborn work if they are of the ſtrength that is reported, namely, *bomb-proof* that will reſiſt a ſhell which weighs 2 ½ hundred before it is diſcharged from the mortar, and when it is diſcends, it is ſuppoſed to fall 30 ton weight.

Yours, &c.

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LETTER XXXV.

Their blooming hopes ſoar high in this deluſion,
To gain poſſeſſion of this envied place,
And on the battlements Spain's enſigns ſpread.

GIBRALTAR.

Dear BROTHER,

THE foe, ere long, will make their promiſed ſtorm---their batteries are completed, and their junk-ſhips almoſt ready. A numerous army encamped, and boats for landing their troops are in the rivers. It is probable that this month will be the grand deciſion of the combat, and we heartily wiſh it, as we are almoſt worn out with conſtant toils, harraſſing expectations, and a ſevere cannonade. 1782 Aug. 4th

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1782 Aug. 4th The enemy have brought ſeveral fire ſhips out of the rivers--the floating batteries have a very ugly and odd appearance--We think they were mounting ordnance in one to-day, as a great many boats were along ſide.

The Corſicans that arrived here from Leghorn, are formed into a company, viz.

Signor Antonio Leonettie, Captain
Phillippo Maſſaria, Capt. Lieutenant
Georgio Alexandria Michili, 1ſt Lt.
Leonardo Monti, Adjutant, with the rank of Lieutenant
Angelo Raffaelli, 2d Lieutenant
Lugi Cotie, Chaplain
4 Sergeants
4 Corporals
2 Drummers
68 Private Men

Total 84

7th A deſerter from the enemy came in, and ſays, that the floating batteries are almoſt ready, and that one has been tryed with ball, and anſwers their expectation.

8th Wind W. Arrived two veſſels under Imperial colours, from the weſtward at Algaziras, and the line of battle ſhip ſailed from that place to the Orange Grove, ſuppoſed to

to take in powder and ſtores. The floating batteries are very near finiſhed. The enemy fire with ſpirit from the land ſide. 1782 Aug.

Wind E This day arrived a French 20-gun ſhip, at the oppoſite ſide. Several parties are employed on the ſtrand, beyond the Spaniſh lines, we ſuppoſe for the purpoſe of erecting a battery, they being apprehenſive of a viſit in that part, whenever our fleet arrives. 8th

The ſhip that came in yeſterday, has removed to the Orange Grove, probably to diſcharge her cargo. The enemy keep labouring at their junk ſhips, and have taken the maſts out of one them, but moſt people are of opinion they never will be able to bring them over without ſails. 11th

The enemy have put ſmaller maſts into the ſhip, that they diſmaſted yeſterday, and are very buſy rigging her--From this it is evident they mean to ſail to their anchorage. From what opinion we can at preſent form, we imagine from their cloſeneſs and wanting air, that they will find an inconvenience in working their guns with briſkneſs. 12th

Wind W. Sailed the Eliza brig, for Leghorn. The veſſels arrived under Imperial colours, ſailed to the Orange Grove. The enemy are very buſy in rigging two of the floating batteries. 13th

Arrived .

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1782 Aug. 14th Arrived a frigate, under Freneh colours from the weſtward at Algaziras--Four gun boats fired at her, apprehending ſhe was an enemy, until ſhe diſplayed her colours.

The enemy have taken out the maſts of four of the batteries, and replaced them with others much ſmaller--the two that were rigging have bent their ſails—We imagine they will ſhortly all of them be ready.

During the courſe of laſt night, the enemy erected a work compoſed of ſand bags, extending obliquely from the eaſtern ſhore, towards the centre of the Spaniſh lines, It is computed from its length and height, and having ſo ſhort a ſpace of time to complete it in, only about ſix hours darkneſs, that there was not leſs than 10,000 men employed in the execution of it.—At preſent it is maſked, but there is not the leaſt doubt but the enemy intend it for a battery.

17th The enemy have hauled out one of their floating batteries being perfectly finiſhed; ſhe has a very aukward and ſurprizing appearance, and lays very low in the water.--They are very attentive in equiping the others. Wind W. arrived a cutter from the weſtward, and ſaluted the Admiral with 11 guns, which he returned with three. A tolerable briſk cannonade from the enemy's forts and lines.

About

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About eleven o'clock this forenoon the enemy made a grand diſplay in the bay--ſeven barges with crimſon awnings proceeded from Algaziras attended by 12 gun boats to the Orange Grove--In half an hour after their arrival, they put off in the ſame order, upon which the ſhipping immediately dreſſed and the Admiral gave a ſalute of 21 guns,--the other ſhipping alſo fired, and the gun boats each of them diſcharged their ordnance. A frigate got under weigh from Algaziras, and under a gentle ſail went to meet the barges, which when ſhe had come half way ſhe gave a ſalute of 21 guns, the gun boats firing alternately, until the barges got to Algaziras, when another royal ſalute was given. The barges then went on board the junk ſhip hauled out yeſterday, and a diſcharge of cannon continued while the viſitors remained on board--Having gratified their curioſity in the examination of the floating battery, they went on board the Admiral's ſhip to dine, and regale themſelves, and drink a hearty bumper in ſucceſs to their undertaking, where they continued till 6 o'clock in the evening, when in the ſame proceſſion they came in, they returned to the pier at the Orange Grove, and on their landing another ſalute was given.--Some are of opinion that this rejoicing is occaſioned by the arrival of

1782
Aug.
18th

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1782 a Prince of the Blood, and others that it is
Aug the Admiral who is to command the floating batteries.

19th This forenoon a flag of truce from the Orange Grove came over, and rowed along pretty near our line-wall, until ſhe came oppoſite Ragged-ſtaff, when one of our boats went out with Captain Vallotin of the 56th Regiment (chief aid-de-camp to the Governor) and ſpoke to her, and ſoon afterwards returned.—The boat kept very cloſe in with the ſhore, making a ſurvey of the works, when the Repulſe, (an advanced gun boat) fired a ſhot as a caution for her to keep her proper diſtance.—Soon afterwards Captain Vallotin returned to the flag of truce, which brought a handſome preſent of fruit and game for the Governor, from Count de Artois, whoſe arrival in the Spaniſh camp occaſioned yeſterday's rejoicing.—The floating batteries are rigging with the utmoſt expedition. The day of tryal is very near at hand, I hope we ſhall acquit ourſelves in the defence of this place, with honor and ſucceſs.

20th This morning our Governor ſent out a flag of truce to the enemy, with a return for the preſent received yeſterday. I am confidently told, it conſiſted of a caſk of beef, pork, and butter, a cheeſe, a puncheon of rum,

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rum, a ſheep and a goat, ſome poultry, and 1782
a quantity of potatoes. " with the General's Aug
compliments to the Count, thanking him 20th
for his kindneſs, and aſſuring him that he did not want any refreſhments." This was policy, and to make the enemy believe that our ſituation was not ſo deplorable as they imagined, though I aſſure you that the boat load we ſent out, would have been thought an eſtate by many opulent families in this place.

Wind E. This morning we obſerved the 21ſt
Eliza brig that ſailed from hence on the 13th, returning from the eaſtward under a Spaniſh enſign, and alſo 13 large boats which we imagine are for the purpoſe of landing troops, from their ſize it is not improbable but each of them may contain 500 men.—Six of the floating batteries are almoſt rigged---two completely equiped for battle.

This afternoon our batteries poured upon 22d
the enemy's works a conſiderable diſcharge of ſhot, ſhells, and carcaſſes, and had the ſatisfaction to ſet the enemy's advanced iſthmus work on fire, which burnt moſt furiouſly for an hour or better.—A briſk fire was maintained on both ſides with the firmeſt ſpirit and bravery, and the enemy were ſeveral times drove off their works, and forced to abandon a battery on the left of St.

Carlos,

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1782 Aug. 22d Carlos, termed the Mahon Battery. We fired from the garriſon in the ſpace of an hour near 1400 rounds---the cannonade continued furious till 9 o'clock, when the enemy rather ſlackened their fire. We had only three men wounded, but judge what loſs the foe muſt have ſuſtained, as they had a body of near 2,000 men employed, in endeavouring to extinguiſh the fire.

23d. The enemy have roofed another floating battery, and are rigging thoſe that are already roofed; one of them appears to have about 26 ports on one ſide. Our batteries keep playing away upon the iſthmus and we have been uſing every means to fire the enemy's works again, but all ineffectually.

24th The ſand-bag work erected on the 16th inſtant, conſiſts of four batteries of 16 guns each. The enemy are buſy in nailing down their platforms, and getting all things in readineſs to mount the ordnance---They will be able to ſcour our lines, and advanced poſts from this work, and alſo in the rear, of which they are forming bomb batteries, ſo reſolutely determined are they upon the capture of the old rock.

25th The enemy had a rejoicing to-day on the ſea-ſide---in the morning, at ſun-riſe, the ſhips dreſſed, and fired, as did alſo the iſland near Algaziras--this was repeated again at noon,

noon, and at the going down of the ſun. 1782
The floating batteries are almoſt ready. Aug.

The St. Phillip's Caſtle, and the ordnance 26th
ſtore ſhipping that lay in the Roſia Bay, hauled in this morning to the New Mole. The bay on our ſide is quite clear, as all our ſhips are now within the boom. From the ſituation of the place, it is whiſpered that the ſeamen are to be landed, and incorporated into a brigade, to act as ſoldiers within the walls, under the command of Capt. Curtis, as Colonel. The enemy have eight of their floating batteries roofed---the day of battle is nigh at hand.

This morning a deſerter came in from 27th
Spain, and brings advice, that the enemy have every preparation made on the land-ſide for the aſſault, and that they are only waiting for the junk ſhips, when they mean to attack us in every quarter---He alſo ſays that eight line of battle ſhips are expected from Cadiz, to act in conjunction with the *floatantees*. He was taken priſoner at Minorca, by Duke de Crillon, and inliſted into a French regiment, but not liking to fight againſt his King and country, embraced the firſt opportunity of making his eſcape.

Wind W. Arrived at Algaziras, ſix line 28th
of battle ſhips, two xebecs and a cutter.

1782 The ninth floating battery is almoſt roofed,
Aug. but is much ſmaller than the others.

28th The deſerter that came in yeſterday, ſays, that on the night of the 16th, he was among the number that helped to erect the ſand bag work, and from the accounts in the Spaniſh camp there was about 11 000 men employed to effect it, that had we fired towards the eaſtern ſhore, the greateſt part muſt have been cut off.

29th The crews of the men of war and other ſhipping in New Mole are landed, and employed in bringing their ſtores on ſhore. The ſeamen are in good ſpirits, and ſwear bitterly againſt the Dons.- This little reinforcement will be of great ſervice to us. The enemy fire briſk on the land ſide.

30th Garriſon Orders.

" The officers and crews of His Majeſty's ſhips being landed, are to be encamped at Europa, and to form the Marine Brigade. Capt. Curtis commanding His Majeſty's ſhips in the Mediterranean is appointed to ſerve as Brigadier General."

You would really ſmile to view the tars handling their firelocks, and marching full accoutred, the boatſwain pipes all hands aloft

loft,—brace the yards tacks and ſheets &c. 1782
are no longer heard,--the glittering beauties Aug.
of the parade engage the attention, while 30th
whiſtling winds, and roaring billows are for-
gotton. Thus military equiped they long
for battle, to perform their evolutions and
manœuvres, which on a parade might excite
laughter, but 'midſt blazing cannon, and
clouds of ſmoak every aukward appearance
will be hid —If they *prime and load* expedi-
tiouſly, it is all that will be required, nor
will they need to *reſt*, *ſhoulder*, or *poiſe*.

I am,

Dear Brother,

Affectionately yours.

LETTER

LETTER XXXVI.

GIBRALTAR.

Dear BROTHER,

1782 Sept. 1st THE action has not yet taken place, though every day adds freſh convincing proofs of a ſpeedy termination. The enemy ſtrenuouſly exert themſelves both by land and ſea, they have hauled out 5 of their floating batteries in a line with the firſt, having bent their ſails, and otherwiſe rigged them. On the iſthmus is a battery almoſt within piſtol ſhot, ſufficient of itſelf

To frighten a whole legion of infernals,
When told they muſt withſtand its mighty foamings.

In the camp of Santa Roque, is an army of 50,000 men, not worn out with the heavy toils

toils of war, but healthful and vigorous, while 1782
our garriſon deprived of all nouriſhment. and Sept.
almoſt as feeble as old age for want of ſuccour, 1ſt
can muſter very few more than 5000 men
and boys, including ſick, wounded and diſ-
abled, to repulſe the efforts of ſuch a ſuperior
force,

But as we're *actors*--Europe the ſpectators,
I truſt we ſhall perform in this great cauſe,
As men determined to maintain the right
Of *George* our King, and Britains fame and
welfare.
Although the foe have made a hect'ring
boaſt,
That each diſcharge from land and ſea
we'll find,
Two thouſand ſhot and ſhells from guns
and mortars;
Will conſtantly be ſhow'ring on the garri-
ſon,

Wind E. Two French line of battle ſhips, 3d
which ſeemingly ſtood for the weſtward came
into Algaziras, on a frigates ſpeaking to them.
The enemy's naval force now ſtands thus.

9 ſhips of the line,
3 frigates,
4 xebes,
8 galleys,
2 cutters,

1 French

1782 1 French ſhip 20 guns,
Sept. 9 floating batteries complete,
3d 1 ditto almoſt finiſhed
1 bomb ketch

About 100 gun and mortar boats, beſide boats for landing troops.

6th The enemy have been aſſidiouſly employed in mounting guns in their 64 gun battery --We have kept almoſt an inceſſant fire from the rock gun upon it, but it being ſo thick covered over with ſand, the ſhot make very little penetration. An additional field officer is ordered to take poſt in the lines, and a reinforcement to the New Mole Guard. The Corſican company that were embodied Aug. 4th, are ordered for duty tomorrow. Every one that is able to fire a muſquet, or carry a ſhot, muſt take poſt upon any alarm. The tenth floating battery is roofed, and began rigging—a few days more and then we ſhall fall to it *ding dong*.

7th Three of the floating batteries looſed their ſails, and got under way, they proceeded to the Orange Grove, and was near 3 hours performing their paſſage notwithſtanding they had a favorable wind: They appear to be very heavy and ill-going veſſels—I ſuppoſe there was not a perſpective in the garriſon but what was employed in the examination of their form and rigging.

Garriſon

Garriſon Orders. 1782

" The marine brigade to take Europa advance, and Little-Bay guards to-morrow." Sep. 7th

Reinforcements are ordered likewiſe to Princes Lines, Landport, Waterport Main and Ragged-ſtaff guards.

This morning Lieut. General Boyde took poſt on grand battery, having the command of all the batteries, and the neceſſary arrangements being made from the rock gun to the Old Mole head, we began a furious cannonade of red hot balls upon the enemy's Mahon Battery, and other lines of approach, together with a ſupply of ſhells and carcaſſes — The moſt captivating joy gained poſſeſſion of the ſoldiery, and every heart and hand was chearfully employed, and while gazing crowds who had taken poſt upon Andaluſia's hills, beheld the volleys of deſtruction that flew in ſhowers, and the ſad effects that were productive of the red flaming balls, our men rejoiced and made a paſtime of the dire employ. The foe withſtood our fire with intrepidity until their works were blazing in ſeveral places, and ſtrewed over with mangled limbs and dead bodies. Several parties appeared upon their glacis, and in an undaunted manner tore up the faſcines--Some kept pouring of baſkets of ſand upon the 8th

parts

1782 parts that were on fire, and others running
Sept. to the ſea for buckets of water. Thus they
8th ſtood, while ſhowers of balls fell on every
ſide, and many were obſerved to be knocked
off the works. I aſſure you it was a horrid
ſcene of ſlaughter, and the enemy were con-
ſtrained to ceaſe their cannonade to ſave the
remainder of their men. The firing contin-
ued in this ſpirited manner from ſeven till
near one o'clock, during which we had ſe-
veral killed and wounded, among whom
are Lieut. Boag of the Royal Artillery, and
Enſign Gordon of the 58th regiment, but
not mortally. The battery which mounted
13 pieces of cannon was entirely conſumed.
9th This morning between 4 and 5 o'clock,
the enemy opened their 64 and other batte-
ries, with the greateſt ſpirit upon the garri-
ſon, which we immediately anſwered--Their
64 gun battery was an inceſſant volley the
whole time, which laſted moſt of the day,
and the diſtance being ſo ſhort, their ſhot
reached the walls almoſt as ſoon as you per-
ceived the flaſh; ſo quick was the diſcharge
that the balls rolled along the ſtreets by doz-
ens; this was by way of retaliation, for the
unexpected compliment we paid them yeſter-
day. Lieut. Wharton 73d regiment and ſe-
veral men wounded. The enemy remove
their

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their floating batteries to the Orange Grove 1782
as fast as they get them ready—there are two Sept.
of them that have not got their sails bent--- 9th
Their line of battle ships, nine in number, stretched over in a line from the Orange Grove this forenoon, and fired upon the garrison until they passed Europa, when they tacked again and returned firing the same way, they then stood, to the opposite side, where they lay with their sails loose until near sun-set, when they again stretched over, and under a gentle sail directed their fire on the southward, in the same manner as before, continuing their course to the eastward, at which time their gun boats came over, and rowed in a line under the King's bastion, and began a fire, but our batteries gave them such a smart reception, that they found it convenient to withdraw. The 97th regiment which landed last month, are ordered to do duty.

About 12 o'clock last night the nine line 10th
of battle ships returned from the eastward, and fired upon Europa and the Southward encampments: They continued a brisk cannonade until they came near the King's bastion, when they stood over to the Orange Grove and anchored--several seamen at Europa and others, were wounded thereby.

1782 Sept. 10th From the land ſide they alſo maintain a briſk cannonade, and their 64 gun battery, repreſents an entire blaze--It is apprehended that we ſhall ſuffer conſiderably from this work.

Between 10 and 11 this night, the enemy advanced to Bay-ſide, and ſet fire to the Palliſadoes at that place, which burnt very freely for ſome time, when one of them again advanced, obſerving it rather decaying, and put freſh fire to thoſe that were not conſumed, notwithſtanding the guards in the lines and at the advanced poſts, diſcharged their muſquetry upon him: The gun and mortar boats came over at the ſame time, and poured in a briſk ſalute of ſhells and ſhot for above two hours--Some few killed and wounded upon the occaſion.

11th This morning we perceived a great part of the palliſadoes burnt down, ſufficient to admit 8 men abreaſt.---From this circumſtance we imagine they will not be long before they make the aſſault. From the iſthmus and forts they keep a conſtant fire, and this morning as I came off Landport Guard, croſſing the Eſplanade, I obſerved a ſoldier before me, laying on the ground, and his head ſomewhat raiſed, and ſupported on his elbows; I ran to him, imagining the man had life, and lifted him up, when ſuch a

ſight

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ſight was diſplayed to my view, that I think I 1782
never ſhall forget---a 26lb. ball had gone Sept.
through his body, and his entrails as they 11th
hung out from the orifice were of a moſt diſagreeable reſemblance; whether it was from the force of the ball, or their natural colour, I cannot pretend to determine--The ſhot from the enemy were dropping on every ſide, and as I found his life was gone, I left him on the ſame ſpot, and made the beſt of my way to the ſouthward.--A party of men buried him ſoon afterwards. The floating batteries at the Orange Grove have been taking in ſtores, &c. yeſterday and to-day. The other two have alſo arrived there.

The enemy continue the fire from their 12th
land batteries. Several boats have been brought out of the rivers to the Orange Grove; ſome of them ſeems to have a kind of a cover, which we ſuppoſe is to ſhelter them from our muſquetry, when they come near the ſhore. The wind being weſterly, we ſhall expect the junk ſhips to embrace this opportunity. The enemy have been erecting ſtands or booths around the ſhore, lined with crimſon or ſcarlet.

A report is juſt circulated that a fleet are obſerved in the gut—we hope it is the Britiſh coming to our relief--every one ſeems impatient to diſcover their colours: A gentleman

1782 tleman who has been taking a view, says
Sept. they are French and Spaniſh men of war;
12th if ſo our fate is inevitable.

The fleet are now diſtinguiſhable by the naked eye, they are ſhips of force, under French and Spaniſh colours, ſtanding for the bay. The garriſon are greatly agitated and diſappointed in their expectations. Will you believe me Brother, there is forty-four ſail of the line, excluſive of the nine already on the ſtation, who are now anchoring between Algaziras and the Orange Grove. If we can withſtand this force we may bid defiance to all the world. The gun and mortar boats come daringly on, as much as to ſay, "*Ye dogs ſurrender*," but luckily a ſhot ſtruck one of them, when ſhe diſappeared----the reſt ſoon afterwards retired. Major Lewis of the Royal Artillery, was wounded this day.

A reinforcement is ordered to Queens lines and to the different picquets, nine of which are to take poſt in town.

That our enemy's may be defeated is the ſincere and hearty wiſh of

Your loving Brother.

LETTER

LETTER XXXVII.

GIBRALTAR.
7 o'clock in the morning.

Dear BROTHER,

TO *Arms! to arms!* is all the cry---the enemy's floating batteries have weighed anchor, and are now under ſail with a fine breeze at N. W. Their colours wanton in the wind with gaudy decorations for the battle, while thouſands of ſpectators from yon glittering ſhore, impatient wait to triumph their ſucceſs. They have now tacked with their heads towards the garriſon, and what is remarkable, they work them without a man being expoſed or ſeen. 1782 Sept. 13th

* * *

Half

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1782 *Half paſt 9 o'clock.*

Sept. The floating batteries have juſt brought
13th too, between the Old Mole and King's baſtion, within 800 yards of the wall----adieu! Victory or Death will crown our cauſe---- The garriſon have begun firing upon them.

* * *

Half paſt 11 at night.

Tired and fatigued I ſit down to let you know that the battle is our own, and that we have ſet the enemy's ſhips on fire. When they came on at nine this morning, we began a diſcharge of cold ſhot upon them, but to our great aſtoniſhment we found they rebounded from their ſides and roofs, even a 13 inch ſhell would not penetrate one! however we were not much diſheartened, although we had ſeveral killed, but with all poſſible ſpeed we kindled our furnaces and fires, and put in our pills of 32lb. weight to *roaſt*. If you could have peeped over the rock, and viewed our ſeveral employs, you could not have forbore ſmiling; ſome ſtationed to work the guns like Ethiopians black by rubbing their faces with their hands dirtied with powder---the ſons of Vulcan were blowing and ſweating, while others were alloted to carry the blazing balls, on an iron inſtrument

inſtrument made for that purpoſe, but as theſe did not afford a ſufficient ſupply for the batteries. wheel barrows were procured fill'd with ſand, and half a dozen ſhot thrown into each. A ſtubborn and well directed fire was maintained on both ſides, the Spaniſh land batteries co-operating, during which we had the inconſolable loſs of Capt. Reeves of the Royal Artillery, killed; Capt. Grove, Seward, and Lieut. Godfrey of ditto, Lieut. Whitham of 58th, and Capt. Alexander M'Kenzie of 73d regiments, wounded, beſide ſeveral non-commiſſioned officers and men killed and wounded. 1782 Sept. 13th

What with the heat of the day, the forges, furnaces, and piles of flaming ſhot, amidſt clouds of ſmoak and ſulphur, accompanied with heavy toil, you may judge we found ourſelves very feeble and thirſty, and in this ſituation a drink of water (which was all the allowance could ſcarce be procured. Lieut ------ of the 72d regiment, obſerving the men under his command, almoſt exhauſted with drought, he chearfully took a keg, (which holds about a pail) went to the fountain, filled it with water and brought it through the enemy's fire to the men on the battery.

One

1782 *One o'clock in the morning.*
Sept. The floating batteries have ceased firing,
14th and one of them has just broke out in flames, the hands on board them are throwing of rockets as signals for assistance—Capt. Curtis with a body of men have just arrived at the New Mole, to man our gun boats to prevent the enemy from escaping.—A report is now received that an officer and 11 men were drove a shore, upon a piece of timber, being part of a floating castle that was sunk by a shell from the garrison, as she was steering to co-operate with the *floatantees*.

* * *

Day-break.

Our bay appears a scene of horror, our gun boats have been chasing two boats that left the junk ships, one of which they have taken, they are now employed in saving the unhappy wretches from flames and death, while the enemy from the land batteries inhumanely fire upon our boatsto prevent their giving them relief.

To hear the lamentation of the crews,
The groans and cries that through the flames resounded,

Imploring

Imploring our aſſiſtance from the danger, 1782
Of fire and water---ready to devour; Sept.
Words are too weak, to give a juſt de- 14th
ſcription!
One of their ſhips blew up with dreadful
noiſe,
While *Curtis* grappled to her ſcorching
ſides,
The blazing beams, the maſts, the yards, [and carriages,
In the exploſion ſcatter'd in the air,
And cover'd o'er the ſea with foaming
wreck.

7 o'clock.

The enemy's ſhips are blowing up one after another, half full of men, and our boats having ſtaid as long as poſſible, they are now returning with a body of priſoners. A remarkable inſtance of providence I cannot help penning--A young boy on board one of the floating batteries, (which was almoſt in an entire blaze,) obſerving our boats making for ſhore, got upon the head, wept and cry'd, and in the Spaniſh tongue called for help; his intreaties prevailed, and one of our boats notwithſtanding the immenſe danger which threatened, rowed towards him, which he perceiving, jumped into the ſea, and at that very inſtant the ſhip exploded, with the greateſt part of the hands on board--The boat ſoon after took the boy up.

1782 Sept 14th Captain Curtis is arrived at New Mole, with about 400 priſoners including officers, ſome of them miſerably wounded and ſcorched, the boat that he was in, was overſet in the exploſion of the firſt floating battery, by which his coxſwain was loſt. As the Spaniſh officers came paſt a furnance at the New Mole, in which there was about 100 red hot balls, and ſome of them melted with the exceſſive heat, they ſhrugged their ſhoulders and gave a pitious groan at what their eyes beheld.

Our ſeamen are bringing the trophies of *victory* on ſhore, one has juſt landed with the Royal Standard of Spain, which was intended by the foe to be hoiſted upon theſe battlements. The hills and heights were covered with ſpectators, when the tars began their proceſſion, inceſſant ſhouts and repeated acclamations continued from the Mole to the South parade, where the Governor and principal officers were congratulating on the occaſion, to whom they carried the colours, which ſenſible pleaſed our gallant chief who joined the crowd in three cheers, and preſented the tars with ſome gold as a reward.

Each heart and ſoul's inflam'd with higheſt pleaſure,
To view *Iberia's* enſigns in our hands;
While ev'ry *Briton* crowds around the ſtandard,

To

To prize the grand diſplay of glorious conqueſt. 1782 Sept.
Some ſmile- then view--carreſs--admire-- ſhake hands, 14th
And with a heart-felt zeal, recount the battle;
King George and victory re-echoes round,
While *Andaluſia's* ſhore weeps at the ſound.

The priſoners are all landed, and eſcorted to Wind Mill Hill, where they are to be encamped; the wounded are gone to the Naval Hoſpital, where every care and tenderneſs will be ſhewn them,--ſome of them were moſt horrid ſpectacles, one in particular I muſt mention, who was carried by four men on a handbarrow,--He had received a wound on his face, ſo that his noſe and eyes were ſeparated from his head, hanging by a piece of ſkin, and the motion of the men that carried him; occaſioned its flapping backwards and forwards much reſembling a maſk, though he muſt have felt the moſt ſenſible agony, yet he looked round him with great complacency, as he paſſed the numerous crowds of people.

The floating batteries have not all exploded—One of them has almoſt burnt to the waters edge, the crew having thrown the powder

1782 Sept. 14th powder overboard. The enemy's land batteries maintain their cannonade upon the garriſon, ſpitting forth their venom'd rage, while on the oppoſite ſhore confuſion and conſternation viſibly appears. The Nobles and Grandees who had aſſembled to view the capture of the place are withdrawing from the Spaniſh camp, to carry the direful news to *Phillip's* court, who impatient waits to hear the expected joyful tidings, but what will be his ſurprize when he hears that the all *victorious impregnable floatantees* are loſt, and that flaming balls effected their ruin.

It muſt be a galling vexation to our foes, to behold their Royal Standard diſplayed upon our ſouth parade—where it is tyed to a gun and reverſed.

The laſt battery has juſt exploded off the Old Mole Head; our red hot ſhot had not fired her, and it being found impracticable to warp her in here, it was judged expedient to detach a boat to ſet her in flames, which accordingly they effected without any injury from the land batteries. Thoſe formidable machines, the admiration of Spain, and in whoſe atchievements centred all their pride, are no longer dreadful, nor appear with threatening aſpect.

While Princes Dukes, and Grandees on yon hills,
Beheld the ſad effects of our hot pills;

* *Morena*

* *Morena* in convulſion fits was thrown, 1782
His junk ſhips burnt—his promis'd ho- Sept.
nor's flown. 14th
§ *Cordova* with his fleet moor'd in the bay,
Ne'er wiſh againſt the Britiſh walls to lay.
The ‡ *Prince of Naſſau,* who was ſent to ſeize,
And from brave Gen'ral Eliott take the keys;
'Midſt diſappointment, rage, and dire diſguſt,
Renounc'd his glory and the ſervice curſt.

The incloſed are copies of returns, where in you will find the ſtrength of the garriſon, the names of the *floatantees* and their ſtrength, with the number of priſoners ſaved by our boats; and ſince victory has crowned our arms, with ſatisfaction I conclude, (being impatient for you to hear the account) and beg leave to ſubſcribe myſelf,

Your loving Brother.

* The Admiral commanding the floatantees.
§ The Spaniſh Admiral commanding the combined fleet.
‡ A Prince of the Blood.

LETTER

List of the Battering Ships, destroyed by Red hot Shot, Sept. 13th and 14th, 1782

Ships Names.	Commanders Names.	Guns	Men
Pastora, - - -	Don Buenaventura Morena, Admiral,	28	700
Palla Piedra, -	Prince of Naſſau, - -	28	700
St. Francisco de Paula, 1ſt	Don Cayetano Langara, -	26	700
Neſario, - -	Don Francisco Munoz, -	26	700
St. Chriſtoval, - -	Don Frederico Gravina, -	18	600
St. Francisco de Paula, 2d	Don Pablo la Coſa, - -	9	360
Sta Ana, - -	Don Joſeph Angelor, -	10	350
a, Juan, - -	Don Francisco Guicochea, -	10	400
Principe Carlos, -	Don Joſeph Topete, -	11	400
Declores. - -	Don Antonio Barforto, -	6	280
	Total,	172	5100

Prisoners taken by Capt. Curtis from the Battering Ships

ea Officers		3
Land Officers		3
Cadets		2
Chaplains		3
urgeon		1
Serjeants, Corprals and Soldiers		216
Artilleriſts	Land 2 / Sea 5	7
Marines		30
eamen		81
French Soldiers		11
	Total	357

Strength of the Garriſon Rank and File 13th September, 1782.

Royal Artillery	494
12	458
39	452
56	457
58	447
72	793
73	778
97	639
Hardenberg's	344
Reden's	337
La Mott's	318
Artificer Company	84
Corſicans	72
Total	5703

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ſefario, - -	Don Franciſco Munoz, -	26	700
S. Chriſtoval, - -	Don Frederico Gravina, -	18	600
t. Franciſco de Paula, 2d	Don Pablo I. Caſa, - -	9	360
ta An , - -	Don Joſeph Angeler, -	10	350
a. Juan, - -	Don Franciſco Guicochea, -	10	400
Principe Carlos, -	Don Joſeph Topete, -	11	400
Declores, - -	Don Antonio Barforto, -	6	280
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LETTER XXXVIII.

GIBRALTAR.

Dear BROTHER,

1782 YESterday evening the enemy marched
Sept. down a conſiderable body of troops to
15th their lines, and the combined fleet having looſed ſome of their ſails, we expected we ſhould have had another attack, but the Dons did not ſhew any inclination to renew the ſport.

The fleet remains at anchor. and I truſt ſhould they come on, but we ſhall cauſe another illumination in the bay. They keep a fire upon us from the iſthmus and other batteries--ſome few wounded, among whom is Lieut. M'Namara of the 72d regiment. We ſent a flag of truce to the enemy.

I cannot omit encloſing you a copy of a poem, I wrote on the deſtruction of the enemys battering ſhips, which received the governor's approbation and acknowlegdment

O.

On *Calpe's* mount where num'rous batt'ries riſe, 1782
And tow'ring bulwarks ſeem to reach the ſkies; Sept.
Great *Eliott* lives, whom cannon loud proclaim, 15th
Adorn'd with laurels and with matchleſs fame:
Where Albion's ſons! immortaliz'd in war,
Repuls'd the foe and fill'd their hoſt with fear.
Whom eighteen months againſt theſe walls have laid,
With beet'ring boaſt, and pompous proud parade;
Whom *Eliott* taught to rev'rence *Britains* fame,
And ſtamp'd with ſhot and ſhells *King George's* name:
September twelfth, the comb'n'd fleet appear'd,
To Negro point and Algaziras ſteer'd.
With ſuch a pow'rful force they thought to fright,
But hardy Britons gloried in the fight;
With longing eyes we view'd them from our walls,
And wiſh'd to let them taſte our *red hot balls*:
On the thirteenth their batt'ring ſhips ſet ſail,
Wind *Weſt North Weſt*, it blew a pleaſant gale.
Paſt nine they moor'd, and then began to play,
Within half cannon ſhot--theſe *boaſters* lay;
We mann'd our batteries with chearful glee,
Reſolv'd to die or boldly dare be free:
The *God* of *war* with aſpect mild appear'd,
He bleſs'd our cauſe, and ev'ry ſoldier chear'd.
Our *vetran chief*, took poſt on King's Baſtion,
Amidſt the battle chearful and ſerene;
Triumphant led the troops to the conteſt,
When ſmiling—thus the Regiments he addreſt:
" Courage my ſoldiers—'tis for Britains right,
" And for your glorious ſovereign you fight.
" Unto your guns and mortars chearful go,
" And ſhow'r deſtruction flaming on the foe;
Thus animated we their force deſpis'd,
Began a ſtubborn fight, and dangers priz'd:
Unto their poſts, each haſted with delight,
And ſtrove who ſhould be foremoſt in the fight.
While Gen'ral *Boyde*, Britannia's ſteady friend,
The *South Baſtion* with courage did defend;
Howitzers, *guns*, and *mortars* ſtunn'd their ears,
Made *Monſieurs* tremble, fill'd the Dons with fears;

* *The rock was ſo named when the Spaniards had it in poſſeſſion*

1782, Sept. 15th

Red flaming ball, like hell-wing Etna threw,
And death in diff'rent shapes unto them flew.
The sons of Vulcan nimbly fires got,
And soon prepar'd huge piles of *red hot shot*;
For fourteen hours they with us did contend,
At one next morn the battle it did end;
A more delightful view was ne'er display'd,
Then when the ships were with bright flames array'd,
The pride the haughty boast of France and Spain,
With dazz'ling light adorn'd the briny main;
Amidst th' excruciating scenes of grief,
They rockets threw, the signals for relief:
But Spain, inhuman no assistance gave,
Nor sent a boat the sev'ral crews to save;
From fire consuming, or a wat'ry grave,
And when our * Commodore undaunted steer'd,
Through flames and death which all around appear'd;
To give the suff'ring foe his tender aid,
Their land batt'ries began a cannonade:
Some wrung their hands some wept with streaming eyes
Some rent the cloudy air with dismal cries;
While he rush'd on, the scorching heat defy'd,
And one exploded while he lay long side:
Six thousand men that came on this command.
Some few--a very few escap'd to land,
Four hundred only were brought to our shore;
Who did our pity and our help implore,
These who escap'd unto the Spanish coast;
There moan'd their ill success and wept their boast,
While hundreds in the flames and sea were lost,
And with the explosion into atoms tost;
Much thanks are due to officers and men,
Whose merit dictates and commands my pen,
'T would tedious be to mark their names and praise,
Nor dare the muse to touch the pleasing lays,
May valiant *Elliot* ever be renown'd,
With laurels from Britannia's hand be crown'd;
May *Boyde* the vet'ran and his *red hot shot*,
By King and country never be forgot:
From age to age extolled be their fame,
And wrote in golden characters their name.

* *Capt. Curtis, of the Brilliant.*

The combined fleet ſtill continue at an- 1782
chor, and the batteries on the land ſide can- Sept.
not forget their uſual employ. This after- 18th
noon the grenadier company of the 39th regiment, eſcorted the body of a deceaſed Spaniſh captain (who died of his wounds) to the place of interment, and fired three volleys over the grave. Yeſterday we received a flag of truce from Spain.

The enemy are quiet in the bay, and their 20th
boats for landing troops ſtill remain at the Orange Grove—ſeveral men wounded by the land fire.

Wind W. Arrived a cutter at Algaziras 23d
—ſeveral of the Spaniſh officers have been permitted to return to Spain.

Very hot fire on both ſides—a gun was 26th
diſmounted this forenoon in the Spaniſh 64 gun battery, by a ſhot from the garriſon. Our loſs this day is, one man killed and 9 wounded—Major Horsfall of the 72d regiment, received a wound by the exploſion of a ſhell. Yeſterday a criminal was executed at the uſual place, for a burglary.

Wind W. The Spaniſh towers this morn- 30th
ing diſplayed ſeveral colours, when the garriſon attentively watched the gut, expecting the arrival of our fleet, but to our regret only ſome neutrals appeared Received a flag of truce from the Orange Grove.

The

1782 Oct 1st The enemys gun and mortar boats came over and fired their usual quantity of shot and shells, and then retired.---The garrison played very smartly upon them

4th A frigate came over from the opposite side this morning, under a flag of truce, and lay opposite the Old Mole Head, upon which a boat was detached to receive the same--- The particulars are not known. The enemy continue their cannonade.

6th A flag of truce from the enemy. 12 settees arrived from the E. at Algaziras

8th Two Spanish launches, under a white flag, came over for the purpose of taking up an anchor left by the frigate off the Old Mole Head on the 4th inst. the Governor having given permission for the same The combined fleet have not made any signal to sail, but remain spectators of the land cannonade, which is maintained on both sides. All the Spanish prisoners are gone to Spain.

10th This afternoon a body of troops embarked from the Orange Grove on board the men of war, from which we conjecture they are tired of the expedition, and are going to remove to some more successful part. Several signals on the tower at Cabritta.

11th Last night Wind N W. A strong breeze sprang up, and drove several of the enemy's line of battle ships from their moorings, and

and this morning we discovered one nearly under the King's bastion, and several others within cannon shot The King's bastion began a cannonade upon her, when she finding it impossible to bear off, struck her colours, and ran ashore off Ragged-staff, where Captain Curtis went, and took possession of her, and brought the crew to land. She proves to be the San Miquel of 70 guns and 650 men---The others with some damage and difficulty made their escape. They give an account that our fleet is off the coast, and that the troops which embarked yesterday, were a reinforcement to the different ships, as they lay upon a spring cable, determined to obstruct the entrance of our fleet. 1782 Oct. 11th

The tower at Cabritta has spread the signal alarm, but the combined fleet have not shewn an inclination to go out, three of the enemy's ships we fired at this morning have struck their to topmasts. Our batteries has been firing shells these three hours, upon a ship of the line at anchor on this side of Fort Negro, who could not remove from her anchorage, (where necessity had compelled her to moor) on account of the violent breeze, we could not observe to have done any damage to her.

An English frigate arrived this evening in

Rosia

1782 Roſia bay, with diſpatches for the governor,
Oct. and gives the account that our fleet conſiſts
11th of 34 ſail of the line, and a reinforcement of two regiments for the garriſon--We rather fear the ſuperiority of our opponents will prove prejudicial to them--God grant they may get ſafe in.

12th The Britiſh fleet under the command of Lord Howe have ſailed to the eaſtward where they are now laying too. It is ſuppoſed this experienced Admiral chooſes to have ſea room rather than run the hazard of the Spaniſh fire ſhips, which they have in readineſs to run in. Came in the Panther of 64 guns, reported to be laden with powder.

The enemy's fleet ſtill occupy the oppoſite ſide, ſeven of their ſhips are repairing the damages they received in the late ſtorm.

Garriſon Orders.

" *The Governor is extremely happy to communicate to the Garriſon, the following inſtructions he has juſt received from England*

" *Extract from the Earl of Shelburne principal Secretary of State.*

" *St. James's, 10th July, 1782.*

I Am honoured with His Majeſty's commands to aſſure you, that not any encouragement ſhall be wanting to the brave officers

officers and ſoldiers under your command. His 1782
Royal approbation of the paſt, will no doubt be Oct.
a powerful incentive to further exertions, and 12th
I have the King's authority to aſſure you, that every diſtinguiſhed mark of emulation *and* gallantry, *which ſhall be performed in the courſe of the Siege by any, even of the loweſt rank, ſhall meet with ample reward from His gracious protection and favor,*

" Theſe, His Majeſty's intentions, you will communicate in the moſt public manner, to every part of your Garriſon, that they may be perfectly ſatisfied, that their Royal Maſter feels for the difficulties they are under, admires their glorious reſiſtance, and will be happy to reward their merit."

Our fleet are ſtill to the eaſtward, within 14th
ſight of the garriſon, and the combined fleet at anchor at Algaziras. The ſhipping that were damaged in the ſtorm are not yet repaired--The guns and ſtores of the San Miquel have been taken out, to make her float

A vigorous fire kept up on both ſides, 15th
but all quiet in the bay---We had one officer killed, viz. Lieut. Grumley of the Royal Artillery, and many men wounded.

This forenoon a frigate came round the 16th
rock, hoiſted a red flag, and fired a gun to windward, as a ſignal of defiance; upon which

17th 2which the combined fleet got under weigh,
O[illegible] went out, consisting of 45 sail of the
16th line. The garrison were greatly delighted, and those whose duty did not confine them to one place, repaired to the heights and look-outs, to view the engagement, but the two fleets in a short time were out of sight--Reports were then circulated that the discharge of cannon was heard, and others that the flash of guns was seen. One of the enemy's ships that came near the rock, was fired at by the garrison and Panther, but did not receive any material damage. The Panther sailed to the eastward. Captain Curtis and the Governor's aid de camp are on board her.

18th Wind E. The British fleet are in sight, standing for the rock, having got the windward of the enemy. We hope now to receive the supplies and relief. Several of the men of war with transports are come into the bay, but the fleet steer to the westward, The 25th and 59th regiments are landed, and the men of war are returned to the fleet. The enemy are in full chase of Lord Howe, within a league distance, and an uneasiness is visible in the countenance of the garrison. Both fleets have passed the gut.

16th Nothing extraordinary in the bay. The cannonade and bombardment continues.---

Sir

Sir Charles Noels ſucceeds Capt. Curtis as commodore on this ſtation.—Our ſhipping that were ſcutled in the New Mole, being got up, the ſeamen are returning again to their uſual employ. 1782 Oct. 26th

The gun and mortar boats viſited us, but without effecting any conſiderable damage. Some regiments have marched out of the Camp of St. Roque. A criminal was executed this day. Yeſterday was wounded Lieut. John M'Kenzie of the 73d regiment. Nov 4th

The 25th and 59th regiments that arrived here the 18th of October, are put on the duty ſtrength, which will be a relief to the garriſon. The San Miquel is in New Mole, where the enemy's mortar boats have endeavoured to damage her.----Yeſterday they fired ſeveral rounds. 11th

Wind W. Arrived a xebec at Algeziras, the enemy's ſhipping lay very quiet viewing our rattling batteries. It is amazing that the Spaniards are not tired of bombardment the place, as they cannot have any hope of taking it. 20th

The gun and mortar boats came over and fired at the San Miquel, ſeveral ſhells fell in the New Mole, and about the Mole Parade, ſome few wounded. 27th

The enemy's fire ſhips are gone into the rivers, but the boats for landing troops remain

1782 main at the Orange Grove. The encamp-
Dec. ment on the right of Fort Negro has been
21 ſtruck ſome time, and the troops marched away. In all probability they have given over the thought of another attack. The land fire is continued with great ſpirit, by which we have many men wounded.

7th The gun and mortar boats came into the bay and fired particularly about the New Mole, ſuppoſed to be intended for the San Miquel — A ſhell ſome time paſt, fell into her and exploded, but did not do her any other damage than ſplitting ſome of her timber. A xebec and a galley arrived from the eaſtward---Europa fired 3 ſhot at them.

14th Wind W. Arrived a brig in 19 days from D pford--The enemy did not offer to interrupt her. Nothing material in the bay.

25th This afternoon the enemy's gun and mortar boats arranged in two diviſions began a cannonade and bombardment upon the garriſon; Sir Charles Noels immediately manned our gun boat, and headed them into the bay, where a ſpirited fire was kept up for upwards of two hours. The batteries on the iſthmus and lines kept pouring in a liberal diſcharge; at the ſame time--the enemy threw many ſhells and ſhot on ſhore.

31ſt On the ſea ſide we are only now and then interrupted, but the land batteries keep conſtantly

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ſtantly roaring. We in complaiſance return the favor, nor are we any ways deficient in number. This year has finiſhed with glorious ſucceſs on our ſide, in gallantly repulſing our combined and determined enemies, and ſhould they think proper to pay another viſit, I hope our arms will prove equally victoous. May the new year be propitious, and eſtabliſh a permanent tranquility, that we may partake of the bleſſings of providence, from which we have been upwards of three years deprived. 1782 Dec. 31ſt

I am, dear Brother,

Yours, &c.

LETTER XXXIX.

GIBRALTAR.

Dear BROTHER,

THE new year has began much the ſame as the laſt finiſhed, volleys of ſhot and ſhells hourly diſcharged from the Spaniſh works. The enemy have renewed their former vigilance in the bay, and yeſterday detached a few cruizers both eaſtward and weſtward. Lieut. Holloway of the Engineers received a wound on the batteries. 1783 Jan. 4th

Wind

1783 Jan. 9th Wind W. This forenoon a signal was made on the tower at Cabritta, and two galleys went out from Algaziras, a sail appeared under the Barbary shore, but after two shot being fired at her, she surrendered to the Dons.—She was but a small settee. The gun and morar boats visited us but did not do any damage. A hot cannonade is kept up by land.

18th This being the anniversary of Her Majesty's birth day, the Royal Standard was hoisted and a salvo fired at the enemy's works with shot, which occasioned a brisk and spirited return from all the Spanish batteries. The naval force are quiet in the bay.

25th Nothing extraordinary in the Spanish camp, or opposite shore. Wind E. Last night arrived here a settee from Tetuan with poultry, the price of which is greatly enhanced. They bring word that the Court of Spain, are greatly dissatisfied and disgusted with the length and ill success of the Siege. This forenoon a soldier was hanged at the usual place of execution, and died with little emotion.

26th The Spanish gun and mortar boats continue their unprecedented firing upon us, they discharged (under a brisk cannonade from our batteries) about 200 rounds and then retired, some few wounded on the occasion. The land fire does not abate.

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Sailed a xebec from Algaziras to the eaſt- 1783
ward, having ſeveral ſettees under convoy. Jan.
The gun and mortar boats ſaluted the ſouth 29th
from the bay. Second Lieut. Angelo Raf-
faliè of the Corſican company was wounded.

This day has brought us joyful news, Feb.
which at firſt we could ſcarce believe. A 2d
flag of truce came over from the Orange
Grove, with Duke de Crillon's compliments
mentioning a ceſſation of hoſtilities,--the gar-
riſon enraptured with the ſound, ſpread the
harmonious tydings and about eleven at night
all firing ceaſed on both ſides.

Every thing wears a different aſpect, our 3d
very foes jump upon their works and in
ſtrong vociferation ſend forth their congra-
tulations, the thundering cannon that ſo of-
ten has ſpread death around, are now ſilent.
The rapturous ſound of peace re-echoes from
ſhore to ſhore, and every tongue is filled with
the bliſsful melody. The Spaniſh offi-
cers advance towards the garriſon, bowing to
the guards, and ſeem ſenſibly to ſhare in the
happineſs. In every corner greeting crowds
are ſeen, and the moſt inexpreſſible pleaſure
is by all ranks diſplayed.

What news? a comrade to his friend doth
cry,
The happieſt news! a Peace he doth reply;
A third he whiſpers, if I may believe,
Supplies of beef and wine we ſhall receive;

A

1783. A fourth rejoins to England we shall steer,
Feb. Once more partake of friendly British cheer,
3d. Of mutton, veal, roast-beef, and home-brew'd beer,

And since tranquility is re-established, I with pleasure conclude the sequel of these Letters, and hope in a short time, personally to assure you, that

I am, your affectionate Brother.

Memorandums.

1779.

21st June, The communication shut.
12th Sept. The garrison commenced cannonading the enemy.

1780.

13th Jan. Admiral Rodney's fleet arrived.
7th June, Nine of the enemy's fire ships destroyed before the garrison.

178 .

12th April, Admiral Derby's fleet arrived, and the Siege commenced.
27th Nov. The enemy's mill mortar battery destroyed by a sortie from the garrison

1782.

8th Sept. The enemy's Mahon battery destroyed by hot shot from the garrison.
9th —. The enemy opened all their batteries, and a new 64-gun battery,

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12th Sept. The combined fleet came in,

13th-- Ten battering ships anchored before the garrison,

14th-- Destroyed by red hot shot, and blew up alternately,

11th Oct. The Saint Miquel a Spanish 70 gun ship, captured by the garrison—same day Lord Howe's fleet appeared.

1783.

2d Feb. Received the first account from Duke de Crillon, of a treaty of peace--The same night the firing ceased on both sides.

Return of the Killed and Wounded in the undermentioned Regiments from the 12th of April, 1781, the Day the Bombardment commenced, to the 3d of February, 1783.

Regiments	Killed				Wounded				Died of wounds.				Recovered of wounds.			
	Officers	Serjeants	Drummers	Ra. & Fi.	Officers	Serjeants	Drummers	Ra. & Fi.	Officers	Serjeants	Drummers	Ra. & Fi.	Officers	Serjeants	Drummers	Ra. & Fi.
Royal Art.	2	1	-	24	8	4	1	126	-	-	-	7	8	4	1	119
12	1	3	1	13	3	4	7	109	-	-	-	9	3	4	7	100
25	-	-	-		-	1	-	8	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	7
39	1	3	1	16	4	5	1	71	1	1	-	5	3	4	1	66
56	-	-	1	16	4	3	-	72	-	1	-	8	4	2	-	64
58	1	1	-	12	2	3	3	73	-	-	-	4	2	3	3	69
59	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	18	-	-	-	4	-	-	1	14
72	-	2	-	35	3	15	1	178		2	-	8	3	3		160
73	-	-	-	26	6	7	1	125	-	1	-	7	6	6	1	108
97	-	-	-	7	-	4	2	57	-	-	-	6	-	4	1	45
Reden's	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	44	-	-	-	4	1	1	-	42
La Mott's	-		-	1	-	3	-	40	-	-	-	6	-	3	-	40
Sydow's	-	2	-	6	1	7	-	55	-	-	-	5	1	7	-	50
Artificers	-	1	-	6	3	3	-	20	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	6
Marine Brig.	-	1	-	2	-	2	-	9	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	8
Corficans	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Total	5	19	3	193	36	62	17	1013	1	6	1	95	55	56	16	[illegible]

1783 A fourth rejoins to England we shall steer,
Feb. Once more partake of friendly British cheer,
3d. Of mutton, veal, roast-beef, and home-brew'd beer,

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Royal Artil.	2	1	-	24	8	4	1	126	-	-	-	7	8	4	1	119
12	1	3	1	13	3	4	7	109	-	-	-	9	3	4	7	10[illegible]
25	-	-	-		-	1	-	8	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	7
39	1	3	1	16	4	5	1	71	1	1	-	5	3	4	1	66
56	-	-	1	16	4	3	-	72	-	1	-	8	4	2	-	64
58	1	1	-	12	2	3	3	73	-	-	-	4	2	3	3	69
59	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	18	-	-	-	4	-	-	1	[illegible]
72	-	2	-	35	3	15	1	178		2	-	8	3	13	1	160
73	-	-	-	26	6	7	1	125	-	1	-	7	6	6	1	108
97	-	-	-	7	-	4	2	57	-	-	1	6	-	4	1	45
Reden's	-	[illegible]	-	[illegible]	1	1	-	44	-	-	-	4	1	1	-	4[illegible]
La Mott's	-		-	1	-	3	-	40	-	-	-	6	-	3	-	4[illegible]
Sydow's	-	1	-	[illegible]	1	7	-	55	-	-	-	5	1	7	-	50
Artificers	-	1	-	6	3	3	-	20	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	[illegible]6
Marine Brig.	-	1	-	[illegible]	-	2	-	9	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	8
Corficans	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Total	15	19	3	193	36	62	17	1013	1	6	1	95	35	56	16	[illegible]

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Return of the enemy's firing againſt the Garriſon.

From their land batteries	Shot	Shells	Total
1781 from 12th April to 31ſt Dec.	100841	29296	130137
1782	73792	38239	112031
1783 from 1ſt Jan. to 3d. Feb.	1182	825	1947
Total land fire	175755	68360	244115
fired from their gun and mortar boats	6775	7498	14273
Total	[illegible]	[illegible]	258388

Expended by the Garriſon from 12th Sept. 1779. to 3d Feb. 1783

		lb	oz.
arrels of Powder	7651	160	15
ells	129	370	—
hot	57	160	—
rape	12	684	—
arcaſſes		026	—
ight balls		689	—
Total	200	829	—

*** *Errata in the title page, read 3d Feb. for 23d Feb.*

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Gibraltar, 23d April, 1783.

The Garriſon being drawn up, conformable to the Orders for this Day, General ELIOTT addreſſed the Troops in the following Manner, previous to his being inveſted with the Order of the Bath.

"GENTLEMEN,

I Have aſſembled you this day, in order that the Officers and ſoldiers may receive, in the moſt public manner, an authentic declaration tranſmitted to me by the Secretary of State, expreſſing the high ſenſe His Majeſty entertains of your meritorious conduct in the defence of this Garriſon.

"The King's ſatisfaction upon this event was ſoon divulged to all the world, by his moſt gracious Speech to both Houſes Parliament.

"The houſe of Lords, and the houſe of Commons, not only made the ſuitable profeſſions in their addreſs to the Throne, but have ſeverally enjoined me to communicate their unanimous thanks by the following reſolutions.

(The Letters of thanks from the Lords and Commons being read, the Governor reaſumed his Speech as follows)

"No army has ever been rewarded by higher national honours, and it is well known how great, univerſal, and ſpontaneous were the rejoicings throughout the kingdom, upon the news of your ſucceſs:——Theſe muſt not only give you inexpreſſible pleaſure, but afford matter of triumph to you deareſt friends and lateſt poſterity. As a further proof how juſt your title is to ſuch flattering diſtinction at home, reſt aſſured from undoubted authority, that the nations in Europe, and other parts are ſtruck with admiration of your gallant behaviour, even our late reſolute, and determined antagoniſts, do not ſcruple to beſtow the commendations due to ſuch valour and perſeverance.

"I now moſt warmly congratulate you on theſe united and brilliant teſtimonies of approbation, amidſt ſuch numerous, ſuch exalted tokens of applauſe, forgive me faithful companions if I humbly crave your acceptance of my grateful acknowledgements.

"I only preſume to aſk this favour, as having been a conſtant witneſs of your ſubmiſſion to the greateſt hardſhips--your matchleſs ſpirit and exertions, and on all occaſions you heroic contempt of every danger."

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Estimate of the various articles, and their average prices, during the blockade and siege of Gibraltar, from 11th June, 1779, to 3d of February, 783

Exchange at 39d. the dollar, being the [illegible]	Gibr. curr.		qs	Engl. sterling.		
				l.	s.	d.
V [illegible]				-	4	0½
A calves head and feet -	10	4		1	4	½
A calve's pluck -	4	4		-	4	7½
Mutton per lb -	1	4		-	1	10½
A sheeps 5th & hind q. sold for	48	-		7	0	-
A sheeps head and feet -	4	4		-	14	7½
A sheeps pluck -	2	4		-	8	1h
Beef per lb - -	1	4		-	4	0h
Bullocks head without tongue	7	4		1	3	4h
A bullocks tongue -	2	4		-	5	1h
Bullocks liver per lb -	-	3		-	1	3
Fresh tripe per lb -	1	-		-	3	3
Salt beef per lb -	-	3		-	1	3
Salt pork per lb -	-	3		-	1	3
Fresh pork per lb -	1	-		-	3	3
A hog's pluck -	4	4		-	14	7h
Goat per lb - -	1	2		-	4	1
A goat's pluck -	2	-		-	6	6
A goat's head -	2	4		-	8	1h
A turkey - -	15	-		2	8	9
A goose - -	9	-		1	10	4
A couple of ducks -	6	6		1	1	11h
A pair of fowls -	6	6		1	1	11h
A pair of pigeons -	3	-		-	9	9
Flour per lb -	-	3		-	1	3
Bread per lb -	-	4		-	1	7½
Salt butter per lb -	1	4		-	4	10h
Cheese per lb -	1	4		-	4	10h
Rice per lb -	-	3		-	1	3
Loaf sugar per lb -	5	2		-	17	1
Tea per lb -	14	-		2	5	6
Common candles per lb	-	6		-	2	5
A hen egg - -	-	1	8	-	-	7h
A pint of milk -	-	3		-	1	3
Potatoes per lb -	-	6		-	2	5¼
Onions per lb -	-	6		-	2	5¼

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